

# STARS AND STRIPES®

**Tar Heels tiptoe past the Tigers in ACC tourney**

Back page

North Carolina's Rashard McCants



**5th Air Force recognizes its best**

Page 3



**Paintball fuels need for speed**  
Scene magazine

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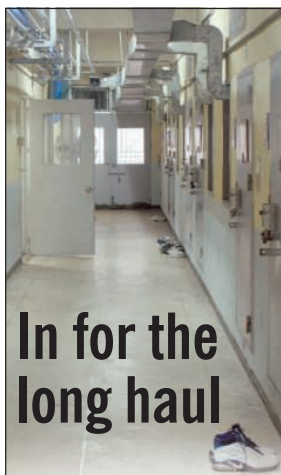
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# Air Force adjusting Fit to Fight standards

Officials to stop penalizing healthy but wide-waisted airmen

Page 3



**In for the long haul**



PHOTOS BY SETH ROBSON/Stars and Stripes

Above: A U.S. inmate, dressed in blue prison overalls, sits in his cell at Cheonan Juvenile Correctional Institution in South Korea, where U.S. servicemen convicted of serious crimes by South Korean courts serve their time. U.S. prisoners get their own cells and are allowed to own books, TVs and video players. Left: The cellblock where Americans stay looks the same as surrounding cellblocks that house South Korean juvenile prisoners. U.S. inmates can own some clothes of their own such as the Nike basketball shoes outside one of the U.S. cells.

**Americans 'learn to get along' in S. Korea prison** Page 4

STARS AND STRIPES  
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## Scene on Sunday

## Japanese inn has American spin



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## TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....	28
American Roundup .....	24-25
Classified .....	30-33
Comics.....Stripes Comics	
Crossword .....	Scene
Parade .....	18
Horoscope .....	28
Letters .....	22
Opinion .....	23
Sports .....	37-48
TV/Radio listings .....	34-35
Weather .....	36
Your Money .....	26-27

## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Terror-funding case:** A three-year case that saw the government's star witness set himself on fire outside the White House ended with the convictions of a Yemeni sheik and his assistant on terror-funding charges.

After the verdict was announced Thursday, Sheikh Mohammed Ali Hassan al-Moayad and his assistant, Mohammed Yahya Zayed, cried out in Arabic that they had been wrongly convicted because jurors had not seen all of the government's surveillance tapes.

**Human trafficking trial:** With the temperature inside a tractor-trailer full of illegal immigrants climbing higher and higher, Doris Argueta told jurors she prayed for her life.

Argueta, 33, took the stand Thursday in the Houston trial of Tyrone Williams to describe what it was like to be trapped in a virtual oven — the temperature, authorities say, reached 173 degrees — and survive.

Williams is accused of driving and abandoning the big rig and could face the death penalty if convicted for his role in the deaths of 19 of the immigrants in the May 2003 smuggling attempt.

**Judge's relatives killed:** A DNA match from a cigarette butt convinced police that Chicago electrician was the killer of a federal judge's husband and mother, authorities said. The cigarette butt found in Judge Joan Humphrey Lefkowitz's house was matched to the electrician, Bart Ross, who killed himself during a traffic stop in Wisconsin this week, and the evidence points to him as the lone killer, a police spokesman said.

**Red Sox death:** Federal officials want the manufacturer of a pepper-pellet gun used by Boston police when a college student was killed during Red Sox celebrations last fall to respond to Israeli police questions about the weapon's accuracy.

Tests by Israeli police on the FN303 weapon, which fires pepper projectiles, concluded that its accuracy "decreased significantly" after 300 rounds were fired, according to a March 2 letter from Sarah V. Hart, director of the National Institute of Justice, to the weapon's manufacturer, FN Herstal USA.

Boston police fired the weapon into a crowd outside Fenway Park celebrating the Red Sox win over the New York Yankees in the AL Championship Series on Oct. 21.

**Klansman accident:** Edgar Ray Killen, the reputed Klansman accused of killing three civil rights workers in 1964, was reported in good condition Friday after break-



**Slain Mounties:** Thousands of Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers follow four Mounties as they march for four officers Peter Schieman, 25; Leo Johnston, 32; Anthony Gordon, 28; and Brock Myrol, 29, all killed in the line of duty last week in Edmonton, Canada.

ing both his legs in a logging accident.

A tree fell on the 80-year-old Killen while he was cutting timber Thursday, his attorney, Mitch Moran, told The Associated Press.

Killen had been scheduled to stand trial April 18 in Jackson, Miss.

**California wildfire:** A lost hunter who set a signal fire that grew into the biggest wildfire in California history pleaded guilty Thursday in a deal with federal prosecutors that could put him behind bars for up to five years.

Sergio Martinez pleaded guilty to one count of starting the October 2003 Cedar fire.

**GOP leader sentenced:** The former executive director of the state Republican Party was sentenced Thursday to seven months in prison for jamming Democratic telephone lines during the 2002 general election.

Chuck McGee pleaded guilty to conspiring to make anonymous calls to annoy or harass. He also was fined \$2,000 and ordered to perform 200 hours of community service. He faced up to 5 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

## World

**France pedophilia trial:** After a day of shocking testimony, a massive pedophilia trial in France moved ahead Friday with the questioning of more lead suspects in the case.

Those to be heard included a woman accused of raping, sexually abusing, corrupting and prostituting children. She risks 20 years imprisonment. Under French law, she can only be identified as Patricia M. to preserve the anonymity of her alleged victims.

In all, 66 people are accused of involvement in the rape, sexual abuse and prostitution of children in Angers, 165 miles southwest of Paris.

**Ethiopian flash point:** U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has called on Ethiopia to pull its troops back from the border with neighboring Eritrea, saying the military build up there is a source of regional instability.

The two nations are deadlocked over the decision of an international boundary commission to award the town of Badme to Eri-

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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# Air Force tweaking Fit to Fight program

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

One year after launching a more rigid physical fitness program, Air Force officials have tweaked the Fit to Fight program, and will stop penalizing wide-waisted airmen who otherwise meet healthy weight standards.

"[The changes] won't affect very many people, and in truth, are minimal changes," said Lt. Col. Sherry Sasser, chief of health promotions for the Air Force surgeon general. "But I think it will improve our ability to intervene much sooner and may give those few who fall outside of the set parameters a way to earn [full points] if

they have a healthy weight. It's not a lowering of standards."

Airmen who otherwise would have had points deducted for not meeting the waist circumference test now will get full points if their Body Mass Index falls within the healthy range, she said.

The BMI is calculated by one's weight in kilos, divided by height in meters squared, or by weight in pounds divided by height in inches squared. Test now will get full points if their BMI of 19 to 25 indicates a normal or healthy weight, according to the National Institutes of Health.

Fit to Fight replaced the Air Force's cycle ergometry test, and measures airmen's fitness by testing a 1.5-mile run, waist

circumference or BMI, and number of pushups and sit-ups they can do. Airmen will continue to get up to 50 points for the run, 30 points for waist measurement, 40 for BMI metric, and 10 points each for sit-ups and pushups.

Anyone earning a poor fit score of 70 or lower will have to enter a five-day-a-week exercise program.

Officials also changed the time airmen have to be retested if they fall in the low fit category — they will be retested every 90 days instead of the current 180 days. The change lets health officials assess sooner the effectiveness of weight loss or exercise programs and make necessary changes, Sasser said.

The length of time allowed to complete the 1.5-mile run will be increased for tests done at higher altitudes.

The changes came out of the physical fitness program's first annual review and will go into effect either in late spring or early summer, Sasser said.

Air Force leaders rejected health officials' recommendations to change the scoring system to 60-20-10-10, which places a greater emphasis on the cardiovascular benefits of the run, Sasser said.

The change was rejected because they did not want to make too many changes too soon, she said. Officials will continue to monitor the program and might adjust the scoring system during next year's review.

E-mail: Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@air.mil

## 'Best of the best' in 5th Air Force honored at Yokota

By T.D. FLACK

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The best of the best were honored Thursday night during the 2004 5th Air Force Outstanding Airman of the Year ceremony at Yokota's enlisted club.

Gen. Bruce A. Wright, 5th Air Force commander, announced the seven winners — both active duty and civilian, officer and enlisted — during a ceremony with the theme, "Air Power: Any Time, Any Place."

Prior to giving the annual awards, Wright told the 25 nominees that they earned the top award.

We "selected the best of the best but we nominate the best of the best," Wright said.

"Each of tonight's nominees exemplifies the Air Force Core Values and what it means to be an airman. Their drive and commitment to service is reflected in the outstanding accomplishments that got them nominated," Wright stated in the ceremony program. "They are examples for all of us to follow."

According to the program, the Japanese and American civilians were selected from more than 5,500 employees; the company

grade officers were selected from more than 900 of their peers; and the enlisted nominees were chosen from a pool of more than 10,000 airmen. Nominees from Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, and Misawa Air Base, Japan, traveled to Yokota last weekend to join their competition from Yokota's 5th Air Force and 374th Air Force Wing.

They visited Tokyo, received briefings and attended a dinner Wednesday night. Capt. Melanie Porterfield, 605th Air Intelligence Squadron, said getting to know other nominees was a great experience.

"To be honest, when I spent a few days with the other nominees, each of us spoke to, I thought this person will win," she said during a phone interview Friday.

Porterfield, 38, said that's why she sat still for three seconds after hearing her name called as "Company Grade Officer of the Year."

She said she was "humbled and absolutely ecstatic" to have won the award.

Porterfield said she thinks her deployment to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq, could have played a factor in why she was selected since the Air Force puts so much emphasis on "deployments in support of the global war on terror."

Porterfield is a volunteer mem-

**Airman of the Year**  
Senior Airman Michael H. Hillier, 35th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa Air Base, Japan

**Noncommissioned Officer of the Year**  
Tech. Sgt. Michael E. Harris, 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 18th Wing, Kadena Air Base, Okinawa

**Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year**  
Master Sgt. Rodney T. Gaither, 605th Air Support Squadron, 5th Air Force, Yokota Air Base, Japan

**First Sergeant of the Year**  
Senior Master Sgt. Dwight D. Eddings, 374th Communications Squadron, 374th Air Force Wing, Yokota Air Base, Japan

**Company Grade Officer of the Year**  
Capt. Melanie M. Porterfield, 605th Air Intelligence Squadron, 5th Air Force, Yokota Air Base, Japan

**Civilian Employee of the Year, Category I**  
Tetsuro Hayashi, 18th Civil Engineer Squadron, 18th Wing, Kadena Air Base, Okinawa

**Civilian Employee of the Year, Category II**  
Tetsuki Nihei, 374th Civil Engineer Squadron, 374th Air Force Wing, Yokota Air Base, Japan

Information provided by the 5th Air Force

**Other nominees**  
5th Air Force, Yokota Air Base, Japan:  
Senior Airman Erik G. Hurley, 624th Air Control Flight Staff Sgt. Janet Saunders, 5th Air Force Master Sgt. Sandy V. Lofton, 20th Operational Weather Squadron

18th Wing, Kadena Air Base, Okinawa:  
Senior Airman Sara J. Higgins, 18th Services Squadron Master Sgt. Charles E. Stiefen, 18th Operations Group Senior Master Sgt. Richard J. Robinson, 18th Operations Group

Capt. Keithen A. Washington, 18th Services Squadron Leader W. Groover, 18th Civil Engineer Squadron 37th Fighter Wing, Misawa Air Base, Japan:  
Tech. Sgt. Margo V. Miller, 35th Communications Squadron

Master Sgt. Peter A. Sorensen, 35th Civil Engineer Squadron Senior Master Sgt. Shawn D. Edwards, 35th Civil Engineer Squadron

Capt. Andrew S. Kroh, 35th Civil Engineer Squadron Georgia B. Thompson, 35th Civil Engineer Squadron Takeshi Ueda, 35th Civil Engineer Squadron 374th Air Force Wing, Yokota Air Base, Japan:  
Senior Master Sgt. James A. McNeer, 374th Medical Group

Senior Master Sgt. Victor M. Roche, 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron Capt. Neil N. Roche, 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Hiroki Takeshita, 374th Maintenance Squadron Information provided by the 5th Air Force

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As part of the community outreach, the council will help feed homeless people in Tokyo's Shinjuku district each month.

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### Yokosuka teacher faces trial

A Yokosuka Middle School teacher charged with marijuana possession will be tried April 10, Yokosuka District Court officials said Friday.

Daniel J. Haley, a 36-year-old physical education teacher, will be tried at Yokosuka District Court, according to the court officials.

Haley was charged March 1 with viola-

tion of Cannabis Control Law for growing a marijuana plant and possessing about 0.1 ounces of marijuana at his off-base home in Yokosuka city on Feb. 9, according to the indictment document.

Haley was arrested Feb. 9, after the police raided his apartment based on information given that Haley was growing marijuana; however, the police wouldn't comment on who provided the information.

Haley remains in Japanese custody.

### Kitty Hawk headed to S. Korea

SEOUL — The U.S. aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk will make a port call in South Korea for military exercises planned to start next week, the U.S. military command in Seoul said Friday.

The Kitty Hawk, based at Yokosuka, Japan, will arrive Monday at South Korea's southeastern port city of Busan with about 5,200 sailors and 60 aircraft, including F-18 Super Hornets, the military said.

The United States and South Korea will conduct joint military exercises March 19-25 amid a standoff over North Korea's nuclear weapons programs. Washington and its allies are trying to lure the North back to the negotiating table to persuade it to abandon its nuclear ambitions.

North Korea warned that the joint military exercises could entail "grave consequences" and hamper efforts to restart the stalled nuclear talks.

From The Associated Press

# Serving time here, but the stars still

## U.S. inmates in South Korea prison learn to lead 'disconnected' lives

BY SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

CHEONAN JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, South Korea — Peaceful Oriental music greets visitors to this collection of cellblocks surrounded by high concrete walls and guard towers about a two-hour drive south of Seoul.

It is the place authorities have chosen to incarcerate U.S. servicemen convicted of serious crimes by South Korean courts. Six U.S. servicemen currently are detained here after a population of just under 500 South Korean teenage violent offenders.

The U.S. inmates' crimes range from drunken driving causing death, to drug dealing and murder. The most notorious of the U.S. inmates is a 32-year-old Camp Casey soldier convicted of murdering a Tongducheon club worker, then mutilating her body in 1992. That inmate will complete his 15-year sentence in 2007.

The prison's chief of security, Lee Kyounghyoung, said the U.S. inmates behave well, although one U.S. prisoner was recently moved to another prison for fighting. A few other U.S. servicemen, with ongoing cases, are at other prisons but Cheonan is the eventual destination for U.S. servicemen jailed by the South Korean courts, he said.

Lee said U.S. prisoners are treated differently than South Korean inmates because of the status of forces agreement, which dictates how they must be handled.

They are segregated from South Korean prisoners and do not perform the sort of hard labor assigned to adult inmates convicted of serious offenses.

SOFIA regulations also dictate that U.S. inmates get individual cells, whereas Korean inmates share cells, and U.S. Forces Korea supplies the U.S. inmates with Western food.

Only one servicemen — a U.S. Air Force captain serving five years for possession and dealing of cocaine — agreed to talk, on condition that his name not be printed.

### A sense of isolation

The 40-year-old officer, a native of Los Angeles, spoke inside the cellblock he shares with the other U.S. inmates.

Inside the walls of the prison, there is a large exercise yard where South Korean prisoners in blue overalls play basketball and participate in regimented calisthenics sessions overseen by guards.

Next to the yard are several dozen concrete cellblocks, a medical clinic and a factory where inmates learn skills such as welding.

The cellblock that houses the U.S. inmates is a gray concrete hallway, stretching the length of the building, with iron cell-doors spaced along the side. U.S. inmates live in one half of the cellblock, South Korean inmates in the other.

The captain showed off his small cell, containing a bed, desk, television and a large collection of books. In prison, he has renewed his Christian faith and studied toward a master's degree in theology from a U.S. seminary, he said.

The drug offenses that landed him in prison happened while he served as an Air Force public affairs officer at Yongsan Garrison in 2000, he said.

There was usage and drug abuse involved, he said.

I was on the wrong track, one thing led to another and I got arrested. They got me for being a drug dealer, but 99 percent of my case was drug use," said the captain, who added that he is determined to put that part of his life behind him.

"I understand I made a grave mistake and my life is forever affected by it. I am and will always be deeply regretful for my decisions. I lost my job, my status, I lost my father, who died three months after my arrest. It has been a very deep and emotional experience," he said.

The officer wouldn't say much about the other U.S. inmates, some of whom have been convicted of extreme acts of violence.

"We are here together. We are here by chance. It is a small environment, so we have to learn to get along," he said.

The U.S. inmates get one hour of recreation a day, six days a week, said the cap-



A kitchen at Cheonan Juvenile Correctional Institution is shared by inmates from the U.S. military, who prepare their own meals with ingredients supplied by U.S. Forces Korea under the Status of Forces Agreement.

SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

tain, who enjoyed golf, tennis, basketball and scuba diving before he went to prison. These days he just walks around outside during recreation time, he said.

The only activity the U.S. inmates do together is cook the food delivered by USFK in their communal kitchen, he said.

"We get the same ingredients all the time — vegetables, fruit, meat and condiments. We have to figure out how to put it all together. We all like meat loaf. I have been on the Atkins low-carb diet, so I do a lot of salads. We cook spaghetti and a whole lot of chicken. We bake it, pan fry it, deep fry it, steam it," he said.

On Thursday afternoon, a pot of water boiled on a gas stove in the kitchen as several U.S. prisoners, some in their blue prison overalls, one in shorts and a T-shirt, wandered in and out as they prepared a meal.

### Outside world far away

The hardest part about being in a South Korean prison is the isolation from familiar things, the captain said.

"It is deep. It is emotional. We feel disconnected ... disconnected from everything that we are familiar with," he said. "We are not at home. Our units have basically abandoned us. The distance from the U.S. to Korea is so great that family members cannot afford to travel here."

In five years, the officer said he's only received one family visit, two years ago, when his brother and sister-in-law came for Christmas and were allowed to spend two hours with him.

Soldiers get visits from the Camp Humphreys-based 249th Military Police Battalion twice a week, the captain said.

"There have been one or two officers in

my chain of command who reached back despite the situation, kept in touch and did what they could despite the gravity of what I had done," he said.

Army chaplains resumed visits to the prison nine months ago after an 18-month period when they did not come, and there are regular visits by American missionaries working in South Korea, he said.

The U.S. inmates see the Korean prisoners only in passing, the captain said. "We know who they are and they know who we are, but we are segregated. Technically we are not supposed to intermingle," he said.

Some of the U.S. prisoners have learned to speak Korean but most have not, he said.

The U.S. inmates are not allowed to watch broadcast television, but can listen to South Korean radio stations and receive videotapes. Some subscribe to English-language newspapers to stay in touch with current events.

"I was up studying on September 11, 2001. A senior guard came to my window just before midnight and indicated that there was an attack in New York and the towers had fallen down. We read the newspapers the next morning and listened to the radio," recalled the officer, who also follows the war in Iraq closely.

"I wish I was over there (in Iraq). I had a family member over there who served almost a year — my uncle who was in the reserves. He sent me pictures and told me about the bad things he saw," he said.

The officer said his time in a South Korean prison would never leave him.

"It is part of who I am. Hopefully it will make me stronger and wiser," he said.

E-mail Seth Robson at: [robson@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:robson@stripes.osd.mil)

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# Unpaid medical bills irk Japanese hospitals

BY JULIANA GITTNER

Stars and Stripes

People living in Japan under the Status of Forces Agreement owe Japanese hospitals tens of thousands of dollars in unpaid medical bills, medical officials say.

The problem is jeopardizing the relationship between base clinics and Japanese medical facilities and could make it more difficult for them to seek emergency care.

"These host-nation facilities can at some point say, 'we're tired of this, we're not taking any more of these patients,'" said Lt. Col. Ronald T. Stephens, commander of the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity Japan (Meddact) at Camp Zama.

Debtors most often are people not covered by Tricare, the military's insurance system. They include people who either don't have insurance or whose insurance doesn't cover incidents in Japan, such as Medicare.

Some cases have involved in-

## Travel tips

Medical commands offer servicemembers a few suggestions to avoid the problem:

■ Advise visitors to purchase travel insurance that includes medical coverage, for Japan, before they arrive

■ Keep enough cash available to pay a hospital bill or deductible if they have insurance. Japanese medical facilities may not accept credit cards or checks.

■ Even servicemembers should consider travelers medical insurance when traveling in Asia. In the event of an emergency, Tricare will pay for treat-

ment at the nearest facility, which may not be their home station. Insurance can cover the cost of bringing them home for treatment.

■ Speak to officials at the base Tricare office before seeking service off base when possible so they can help with billing and paperwork

■ Always pay bills. Tricare offices may be able to help servicemembers work out a payment plan with a hospital, but it's a favor the hospital offers, not a requirement.

—Juliana Gittner

sured Department of Defense civilians who received claim checks from their insurance companies after receiving service, but failed to turn the payments over to the Japanese hospital where the service was provided, Stephens said.

"First and foremost, those are

bills that people genuinely owe," he said.

At Camp Zama — where acute and emergency patients are generally referred to one of four Japanese facilities — more than 20 Americans currently owe more than \$100,000.

Some of the cases are more

than a year old, Stevens said.

"It sheds a poor light on Meddact, on U.S. Army Japan, the Army and the United States."

The problem seems limited largely to Japan; in South Korea, for instance, U.S. civilian patients routinely are referred to off-post clinics, particularly for dental care. But in most cases, patients are asked to pay for their services on the spot, reducing the possibility of an unpaid bill.

Military members largely are prohibited from visiting South Korean clinics without approval. Many civilians and contractors, however, prefer to use local facilities because of easier scheduling, modern facilities and often cheaper fees for routine medical services.

As in the United States, medical bills in Japan can be staggering. Payments usually are expected up front or soon after the service.

"It's like sushi," said Navy Lt. Rommel Flores, head of Tricare operations at Yokosuka Naval Hospital. "You want sushi, you

pay whatever the amount is for it."

In many cases, Japanese medical facilities are kind enough to bill American patients but they expect the payments quickly.

"I think that servicemembers, their families and civilian workers probably don't understand the system," said Kazumi Watanabe, an official at Ebina General Hospital's general administration division where Zama patients often are seen. "The hospital's purpose is to provide care but it cannot let payments just slip out, otherwise it will not be able to manage to stay in business."

He adds that for people visiting Japan, where insurance may not be accepted, the bills can be extremely expensive.

"We want people to be conscious of that," Watanabe said. Over the holidays, two family members visiting servicemembers at Yokosuka required medical help off base and now face thousands of dollars in bills, Flores said.

The same has occurred with a dozen people in the past two years.

In many cases, the problem stemmed from older family who would be eligible for Medicare in the States. Medicare doesn't pay in Japan. "It doesn't pay overseas," he said. "Sometimes that's all they have."

At Yokosuka, unpaid bills to local hospitals became such a problem several years ago that Navy leaders made it mandatory for anyone not covered by Tricare to purchase health insurance before they can receive command sponsorship. The rule primarily affected extended families and other secondary dependents.

"It's a headache for us," Flores said.

His advice to visiting family members is to buy travelers insurance with medical coverage that works in Japan in advance. The insurance can cost a few dollars a day.

"You remember the camera and film, keep insurance in mind too," he said.

Hana Kusumoto contributed to this report.

E-mail: juliana.gittner@starsandstripes.osd.mil



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# 4 charged in Hansen stabbing death

BY ERIK SLAVIN

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Three Camp Hansen seamen were charged March 4 and a Marine was charged Monday in connection with the Feb. 4 stabbing death of Seaman Adam J. Paleco, Marine officials said Friday.

Seaman Robert L. Person Jr., of Turrell, Ark., was charged with murder, conspiracy, larceny and obstructing justice. Seaman Tiffany Marie Brooks, of Carthage, Miss., and Seaman Audrey G. Evans II of Royal Palm,

## 3 seamen, Marine could face death penalty

Fla., face the same charges.

Person and Brooks are assigned to the U.S. Naval Dental Center. Evans is assigned to the 3rd Dental Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group.

Marine Lance Cpl. Jessica I. Jenkins, of Duval, Fla., was charged with murder, failing to obey an order or regulation, dereliction of duty, making false official statements, being an accessory after the fact, aiding and abetting, concealing evidence

and receiving stolen merchandise. Jenkins is a field radio operator with the Headquarters and Service Battalion.

The four servicemembers are at the Camp Hansen brig awaiting trial. If convicted, each of the accused could face the death penalty.

Paleco, 21, of Hackettstown, N.J., was found shortly after midnight and pronounced dead at the scene, according to a Marine spokesman. An autopsy was conducted at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Lester.

Paleco was due to appear before a court-martial on charges in connection with a November theft of merchandise from the Kadena Air Base Army and Air Force Exchange.

Seaman Darryl R. Trappier, assigned to the Camp Hansen Dental Clinic, was convicted Feb. 1 of larceny and conspiracy in connection with the same exchange theft.

Trappier received a bad-conduct discharge, confinement for eight months, forfeiture of \$823 pay per month for eight months and reduction in pay grade to E-1. He also is being held at the Camp Hansen brig.

Trappier is not a suspect in Paleco's death, officials said.

As of Friday evening, Marine public affairs officials had not responded to repeated attempts to obtain further information on each suspect's alleged role in the death and trial dates.

E-mail Erik Slavin at: [slavin@pstribes.osd.mil](mailto:slavin@pstribes.osd.mil)



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# Operation Rock Hammer strikes Buhriz

## GIs detain 11 suspected of election-day attacks

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

BUHRIZ, Iraq — Soldiers detained 11 people Tuesday as part of Operation Rock Hammer, a search mission Tuesday in Buhriz, a city of 60,000 on the outskirts of Baquba.

"Most of the detainees were directly involved in the attacks on election day in Buhriz," said Capt. Jason Staratis of Youngstown, Ohio. "There were very big attacks, and this population didn't have a very good turnout for the election."

The purpose of the 42nd Infantry Division operation, conducted by 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, was to arrest suspects in city attacks and to find weapons and explosives. Detainees were brought to a hollowed-out brick building on the city's edge.

"We search the detainees and safeguard them in this building," Staratis said. "In case we take fire, we want to make sure they're safe."

Staratis said the detainees were found at sites identified as places where insurgents were living or hiding. They were searched and photographed and had hands put over their heads. Their hands were tied behind their backs as U.S. soldiers stood guard.

They eventually would have their thumbprints scanned and would face interrogation by intelligence officers.

"We don't want them to see our faces, and we definitely don't want them to know who [the other detainees are]," Staratis said. "That way they won't know what the other guy said."

### A little loco?

During the perils of war, soldiers sometimes need a steady presence to help them through bad times. Chaplain (Capt.) Derek Murray was ready to serve as the conscience of Tuesday's operation.

Murray, of North Berwick, Maine, was present to give reassurance to the wounded, compassion to the scared, and guidance to soldiers guarding the Iraqi detainees.

"I'm sort of the ethical thermometer," Murray said. "For example, God forbid if we ended up fighting in that cemetery over there. It would be a huge ethical and spiritual affront to these people. We would be encroaching on their faith, sort of like if we entered one of their mosques."

Murray, who goes unnamed to the operations,

said he likes being the battalion's "spiritual guy."

"You have to either be cracked or have a calling to be a pastor in these situations," Murray said.

"I'm probably a little bit of both."

### It's a bird ...

While some soldiers made their way into downtown Buhriz and searched homes and shops, others worked on the edge of town trying to ensure a safe trip back to base. One tool they used was the Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, or SUAV.

The hand-launched SUAV is a battery-powered aircraft that weighs about 4 pounds. A small propeller powers it through the sky as a video camera in its nose feeds pictures of the ground below to soldiers. From the ground, it sounds like a big mosquito flying overhead.

"We're flying over the routes back [to the base], searching for anyone planting [roadside bombs], searching rooftops and sniper positions," said Spc. Gary Freis of Tucson, Ariz. "We haven't seen anything yet. They've got the road pretty well protected."

Fries said the SUAV has a top speed of about 40 mph but a strong headwind can slow it down to about 5 mph. It is designed to fly for up to an hour, crash land and break apart upon impact, then quickly be reassembled for another sortie.

Email Charlie Coon at: coonc@mail.strips.esd.mil



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 42nd Infantry Division enter a village near Buhriz, Iraq, on Tuesday while searching for weapons, explosives and insurgents during Operation Rock Hammer.

## Soldiers search Iraqi town for insurgents, weapons

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

BUHRIZ, Iraq — The mission starts with a bang. A handful of artillery explosions crack through the pre-dawn sky, waking up the sleeping community. Fighter jets streak overhead, leaving a trail of sonic booms in their wake.

"Psychological warfare; it might make a guy think twice about picking up his AK-47," said Capt. Ryan Howell of St. Louis, commander of Battery A, 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment, part of the 42nd Infantry Division's Task Force Liberty.

Operation Rock Hammer has begun: Now 500 troops — 375 American and 125 Iraqi soldiers — will blitz through Buhriz to seize illegal weapons, explosives and insurgents; they're especially on the lookout for two men suspected of leading election day attacks against polling stations.

Buhriz's 60,000 residents live in a place that offers strange mixes of primitive living and technological wonders, often under the same roof. A house might not have flush toilets but it does have a satellite dish on its roof.

For soldiers with vehicles, Buhriz can be difficult to enter since there are only two ways in and out, a road on either side of town.

But insurgents who know the terrain have many places to hide in the maze of homes and shops. Escape routes run through the acres of surrounding palm and date groves and across the Diyala River.

"I'm pretty excited that we're actually going out and doing something," said Spc. Robert Atchison of Gainesville, Fla. "We're going after the guys who are causing all the havoc."

Special operation soldiers and a group of select Iraqis led the way into town, targeting seven sites — four residents and three shops — suspected of harboring the top suspects and their cohorts. For their role, the soldiers of Battery A look for weapons caches and fleeing suspects on the scores of goat trails running like a maze through the woods.

"There's a whole network of trails back here, and they're all well-worn," said Pfc. Keith Peacock of Las Vegas after one foray into the brush.

Searching the surrounding areas and city represents a gray area in the current state of security af-

fairs, Howell said. It is too insecure for normal police activity (if a normal police force existed). But in trying to win the peace, rolling tanks through town isn't the answer.

"Clearing operations don't always yield a lot," Howell said. "Sometimes you can make more enemies than you do friends." It also let's people in the neighborhood know — "don't harbor these guys."

"The police couldn't do this thing in the States, but until police stations here stop getting mortared ... Residents who can't fix anything damaged during a search, Howell said, can bring evidence of the damage along with three repair estimates to the Civil Military Operations Office in nearby Baquba. If they were innocent of wrongdoing, the victims can be reimbursed cash for the damage.

For all the firepower, it turned out there was little need. There were no casualties, Howell said, either military or civilian.

Of the 11 detainees, Howell said, six tested positive for traces of explosive compounds on their hands. Neither Saddam Septi nor Dawoud Karim Hanoun were captured.

The four hot spots detected by the helicopter turned out to be nothing.

The final haul of weaponry was fairly modest. Several AK-47 automatic rifles with ammunition were found, as well as a homemade rocket launcher, two rocket-propelled grenades and some mortar rounds. Howell said that three improvised explosive devices were found and blown up.

That could be a good sign, he added, indicating that perhaps people there were buying into a future Iraq that was democratic and non-oppressive.

"Everybody was expecting a little more action, a little more hype," Howell said. "Of course, we're not out of the woods yet. There could be some surprises on the way home."

"There weren't. There were just a few glares. Some kids waved to the passing troops. One person threw a rock that hit a passing Humvee. Most people just stood and watched."

The operation would be followed up in coming days with soldiers and interpreters explaining to residents of Buhriz the reason for Tuesday's actions.

"We'll tell them, 'This is why we did this,'" Howell said.

Email Charlie Coon: coonc@mail.strips.esd.mil

*“Psychological warfare; it might make a guy think twice about picking up his AK-47.”*

Capt. Ryan Howell



Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment lead a detainee into a holding area. The detainee was apprehended during the battalion's operation Tuesday in Buhriz, Iraq.

## IN THE WORLD

## Indonesia receives terror warning

By CHRIS BRUMMITT

The Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — The U.S. Embassy on Friday warned its citizens to stay away from the World Trade Center shopping mall in the Indonesian capital because of a "possible bomb threat" in the next three days.

A message posted on the Embassy Web site said U.S. officials "are aware of a possible bomb threat against World Trade Center Manga Dua in North Jakarta for the period 11-14 March."

"Americans in Jakarta should avoid the area surrounding this facility," the message said.

## U.S. alerts Jakarta of 'possible bomb threat' on shopping mall

It gave no more details about the threat.

Indonesia's chief of detecting, Lt. Gen. Suyitno Sandi, said he was unaware of the threat.

A security officer at the mall said his department had not been informed of the warning and that the building was packed with shoppers as usual.

The mall, which sells mostly cheap clothes and electronics, is usually crowded on weekends,

though it is well outside the downtown district and is not especially popular with foreigners.

Jemaah Islamiyah, an al-Qaida terrorist group that operates in several Southeast Asian countries, has been blamed for a string of terrorist attacks in recent years. They include the 2002 Bali bombings that killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists, a 2003 blast at Jakarta's J.W. Marriott hotel that killed 12 and the sui-

cide car bombing of the Australian Embassy last September, which killed 10.

Officials have arrested scores of Jemaah Islamiyah suspects, but local police and foreign governments have repeatedly warned that more attacks are likely. Several countries warn their citizens not to travel to Indonesia at all.

While many Jemaah Islamiyah leaders have been captured, two of its most dangerous bombmakers are still at large, regional security officials say.

Before Christmas, Australia warned it had "credible information" that terrorists could be targeting the Hilton Hotel chain in Indonesia. No attack occurred.

## Syrian troops leave northern Lebanon

By ZEINA KARAM

The Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — The last Syrian troops left northern Lebanon on Friday but left behind intelligence agents in nine offices, while the U.N. Middle East envoy said Syria needs to produce a timetable for a full withdrawal from the rest of Lebanon.

Under international pressure, Syria this week began pulling its 14,000 forces back to the eastern Bekaa Valley. It is negotiating with the government on their withdrawal from Lebanon at a later date.

Convoys of Syrian trucks, some towing artillery pieces, were seen driving Thursday night toward northern Syria. Empty trucks and buses arrived in central Lebanon on Thursday, apparently to pick up Syrian supplies and soldiers who are being sent east.

Nine Syrian intelligence offices remain in northern Lebanon, including the towns of Tripoli, Akkar, Minye and Amyo-un.

Plainclothes intelligence agents operate from the guarded offices in apartment buildings and deal directly with the Lebanese.

U.N. envoy Terje Roed-Larsen said Friday that the United Nations expects President Bashar Assad to produce a timetable for the full withdrawal of Syrian troops and intelligence officers from Lebanon.

Speaking in Amman, where he sought Jordanian support for U.N. Security Council Resolution 1559 on Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon, Roed-Larsen indicated he was optimistic about his meeting with the Syrian president in Damascus on Saturday.

"I expect that we will get the commitment and timetables for the full implementation of 1559," Roed-Larsen said.

In Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Friday that Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon should include the pullout of intelligence agents — a stance that matches Washington's view.

Lebanese opposition leader Walid Jumblatt said the opposition wants a full withdrawal of all Syrian forces from Lebanon, "especially representatives of the security services."

Lebanese Prime Minister-designate Omar Karami said in comments published Friday that international observers would welcome to monitor parliamentary elections scheduled to start next month, the first time Lebanon has signaled an acceptance of foreign monitors.

The holding of free and fair elections, due to begin in April and continue into May, has been stressed repeatedly by the United States.

"The goal in the near term is to make certain that the Lebanese people have a fair opportunity to have free elections and to determine their own political future," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Thursday.

Karami, who was reappointed to his post Thursday, 10 days after resigning amid mass street protests, said he would welcome an international independent delegation headed by former President Jimmy Carter to observe the parliamentary elections, even though he warned that the polls may have to be postponed.



Agent Orange victims Duong Thi May, 14, left, and Hoang Van Trung, 16, play in a class at the Vietnam Friendship Village for children and veterans believed to be suffering the effects of Agent Orange on the outskirts of Hanoi, Vietnam, Friday.

## Vietnamese angered over the dismissal of Agent Orange lawsuit

By TINI TRAN

The Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam — A Vietnamese group expressed anger Friday over a U.S. judge's dismissal of a historic class-action lawsuit claiming American chemical companies had committed war crimes by making the defoliant Agent Orange during the Vietnam War.

U.S. District Judge Jack B. Weinstein threw out the case in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Thursday, saying he did not agree that Agent Orange and similar herbicides should be considered poisons banned under international rules of war.

U.S. aircraft sprayed more than 21 million gallons of defoliant, mostly Agent Orange, on Vietnam from 1962-71 to destroy crops and remove communist forces' cover. It has been blamed for a vast range of health problems.

"We are disappointed. ... Weinstein has turned a blind eye before the obvious truth. It's a shame for him to put out that decision. We just want justice, nothing more," said Nguyen Trong Nhan, vice president of the Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Or-

ange. He said the group was thinking of filing an appeal.

The lawsuit was the first attempt by Vietnamese plaintiffs to seek compensation for the effects of Agent Orange, which contains the toxic chemical dioxin, and has been linked to cancer, diabetes and birth defects among Vietnamese soldiers and civilians and U.S. veterans.

Weinstein also found that the plaintiffs could not prove that Agent Orange had caused their illnesses, largely due to a lack of research.

Lawyers for chemical manufacturers Monsanto, Dow Chemical and a dozen other companies had argued the firms should not be punished for following the orders of the nation's president and that international law exempts corporations, as opposed to individuals, from liability for alleged war crimes.

Many U.S. veterans and Vietnamese have long blamed Agent Orange for cancer, diabetes, spina bifida and other problems. The U.S. government claims there is no direct evidence linking dioxin to the ailments. However, about 10,000 U.S. veterans receive disability benefits related to Agent Orange exposure.

## Yushchenko treatment

WASHINGTON — American doctors secretly assisted in the treatment of Viktor Yushchenko after he was apparently poisoned while running for president of Ukraine, The Washington Post reported Friday.

U.S. officials kept the doctors' role secret because they did not want to appear to be interfering in the tumultuous Ukrainian election, according to the report.

## Heineken to unveil 'Light'

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands — Heineken NV said Friday it will introduce a low-calorie, low-carbohydrate beer branded with the Heineken name in the United States, hoping to gain more of a growing segment within a stable market.

The new beer, "Heineken Premium Light," will compete with domestic and foreign light brands.

## Chess champ retires

MOSCOW — Garry Kasparov, 41, the chess world's youngest-ever champion and undisputed king the last two decades, made a stunning move shortly after winning a prestigious tournament in Spain: He retired from professional play.

The announcement by the world's No. 1 ranked chess player since 1984 came shortly after he won the 14-match Linares tournament in Spain on Thursday, despite losing the final game.

## Spain honors victims

MADRID, Spain — Spaniards observed a long, mournful silence Friday to mark the first anniversary of the country's worst terrorist attack, when 10 U.S. Embassy bombs exploded through crowded commuter trains, killing 191 and wounding more than 1,500.

King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia led the main memorial.

From The Associated Press

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## Italians restore a rare fresco portrait of Dante

By MARTA FALCONI  
The Associated Press

ROME — A prominent nose and severe expression were believed to be among his most distinguishing features, but Dante Alighieri might now show a different face to posterity.

A seven-month restoration has stripped layers of grime and revealed the splendor of a 17th century frescoed portrait that art historians believe might be the most ancient of the medieval poet who wrote the "Divine Comedy."

Monica Donato, an art historian and professor at Parma University, is among the experts who have studied the frescos.

"We identified the portrait as Dante's thanks to archive documentation, as well as manuscripts and drawings," Donato said.

"It is certainly the most antique documented portrait of the medieval poet."

The fresco shows a quite short man in profile, with a dark complexion, prominent lower lip and a long nose.

"This fresco shows a different face compared to the one we used to know from Renaissance traditional iconography," Donato said.

The most eye-catching difference, she said, is the poet's nose, his best-known feature, which is traditionally portrayed as large and hooked.

"In the Renaissance, he was pictured as a serious-looking figure, even surly," Donato said.

"In these frescos he doesn't have such marked traits and he generally looks more relaxed."

The almost life-sized frescos, including samples of Petrarca and Boccaccio, are set in moon-shaped lunettes in the vaulted ceiling of the "Arte dei Giudici e Notai" (Judges and Notaries Art) hall, a building that hosted one of the governing bodies in medieval Florence.

Visitors and tourists will soon be able to look directly at Dante's face and perhaps even dine beneath it.

Umberto Montano, owner of the Alle Murate restaurant in Florence, is planning to move his restaurant into the building's hall.

"I commissioned and funded this restoration because I was looking for a better venue for my restaurant and such a prestigious spot might be just ideal," he said.

"We will be the guardians of this wonderful artistic and historical heritage."

## Thousands of well-wishers flooding pope with e-mails

By WILLIAM J. KOLE  
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — He presides over an organization with two millennia of history, but Pope John Paul II is like anyone who's been away from the office for a while: His e-mail is piling up.

The Vatican says it's logged more than 10,000 e-mails in English alone for the pope, who is recovering at a Rome hospital from throat surgery to ease his second breathing crisis in a month.

More than 6,000 e-mails in Spanish have streamed into the pope's in-box, along with thousands of others in various languages, the Vatican said.

"As far as the content, the common denominator is not only the good wishes but personal memories and episodes of life recounted by those who have been stirred by the words of the pope and his testimony of faith," Vatican Radio reported last week.

"The closeness expressed to the pope is coming from every part of the world," it said. "The flow of messages doesn't stop."

The Vatican won't say how



AP

Pope John Paul II uses a computer to send a special message to bishops in Oceania via Internet during an audience in the Clementine Hall at the Vatican in November 2001.

much — if any — e-mail the 84-year-old pontiff actually reads or responds to, but John Paul seems comfortable with the medium. In 2001, sitting in the Vatican's frescoed Clementine Hall, he used a laptop to tap out an apology for Roman Catholic missionary abuses against indigenous peoples of the South Pacific.

"The pope sees some of the messages, but I don't know how many," hospital spokesman Nico-

la Cerbino said Tuesday. "All the messages that are received by the pope get an official response."

More time-honored expressions of affection and support such as letters, telegrams and poems also have poured in for the pope. Last week, the Vatican released letters and drawings sent by Italian third-graders, who drew a smiling pope waving a cane and pictures of the pontiff in his hospital bed. Even prisoners have been writing to the pope.

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# Japanese embracing 'age of the robot'

BY ANTHONY FAIOLA

The Washington Post

TOKYO — Ms. Saya, a perky robot in a smart canary-yellow suit, beamed a smile from behind the "May I Help You?" sign on her desk, offering greetings and answering questions posed by visitors at a local university. But when she failed to welcome a workman who had just walked by, a professor stormed up to Saya and dished out a harsh reprimand.

"You're so stupid!" said the professor, Hiroshi Kobayashi, towering over her desk.

"Eh?" she responded, her face wrinkling into a scowl. "I tell you, I am not stupid!"

Truth is, Saya isn't even human. But in a country where robots are changing the way people live, work, play and even love, that doesn't stop Saya the cyber-receptionist from defending herself from men who are out of line. With voice recognition technology allowing 700 verbal responses and an almost infinite number of facial expressions from joy to despair, surprise to dismay, Saya may not be biological — but she is nobody's fool.

"I almost feel like she's a real person," said Kobayashi, an associate professor at the Tokyo University of Science and Saya's inventor. "She has a temper ... and she sometimes makes mistakes, especially when she has low energy," the professor said.

Saya's wrath is the latest sign of the rise of the robot. Analysts say Japan is leading the world in rolling out a new generation of consumer robots. Some scientists are calling the wave a technological force poised to change human lifestyles more than the advent of the computer or the cell phone.

Though perhaps years away in the United States, this long-awaited, as-seen-on-TV world is already unfolding in Japan, with robots now used as receptionists, night watchmen, hospital workers, guides, pets and more.

Officials compiled a report in January predicting that every household in Japan will own at least one robot by 2015.

Scientists and government authorities have dubbed 2005 the unofficial "year of the robot," with humans set to interact with their electronic spawn as never before at the 2005 World Expo opening just outside the city of Nagoya on



ANTHONY FAIOLA/Washington Post

Cyber-receptionist Ms. Saya greets Hiroshi Kobayashi, her inventor, at the Tokyo University of Science. "She has a temper," the professor says.

March 25. At the 430-acre site, 15 million visitors are expected to mingle with some of the most highly developed examples of Japanese artificial intelligence, many of which are already on sale or will be within a year.

Greeting visitors in four languages and guiding them to their

desired destinations will be Mitsubishi Heavy Industries' yellow midgebot robot, Wakamatu. A trio of humanoid robots by Sony, Toyota and Honda will be dancing and playing musical instruments at the opening ceremony. Parents visiting the World Expo can leave their children in the care of a ro-

botic babysitter — NEC's PaPeRo which recognizes individual children's faces and can notify parents by text in case of emergency.

"We have reached the point in Japan of a major breakthrough in the use of robot technology and our society is changing as a result," said Kazuya Abe, a top official at NEDO, the national institute in charge of coordinating science research and development.

"People are and will be living alongside robots, which are seen here as more than just machines. This is all about AI" — artificial intelligence, Abe said — "about the creation of something that is not human, but can be a complement or companion to humans in society. That future is happening here now."

In the quest for AI, the United States is perhaps just as advanced as Japan. But analysts stress that the focus in the United States has been largely on military applications. By contrast, the Japanese government, academic institutions and major corporations are investing billions of dollars on consumer robots aimed at altering everyday life, leading to an earlier dawn of what many here call the "age of the robot."

# Victims of Hitler's 'Aryan ideal' haunt Norway

BY DOUG MELLGREN

The Associated Press

OSLO, Norway — Gathered at the Royal Christiania Hotel overlooking rain-swift Oslo, the men and women with their name tags and windbreakers could pass for a perfectly ordinary party of over-60s on an outing.

But these 30 or so Norwegians, about to set out on a day cruise, are anything but ordinary.

There's Paul Hansen, who grew up in a mental home even though there was nothing wrong with him. There's Tove Laite Strand, sipping a drink and looking as fragile as the single orange zinnia on her table. Her parents used to beat her with a clothes hanger.

Downstairs in the lobby, Hugo Frebel, a large, amiable 62-year-old, starts to tell his story, then lowers his voice and glances around. "People are listening," he says, and leads his guest upstairs to the company of the few people who can possibly understand what has been rough — the League Lebensborn of Norwegian Children of War.

Of all the victims of World War II who still gnaw at Europe's conscience, these are the last and in many ways the saddest. They are the children born of Hitler's dream of breeding a master race by pairing German

men with European women deemed to meet the mold, fair-skinned "Aryan ideal" types.

Only now, as the 60th anniversary of the war's end approaches, is the government offering them a measure of compensation.

I was a German baby. Worse than an insect," Frebel recalls.

During the five-year occupation, tens of thousands of children across Europe were born of relationships between German soldiers and local women. But in Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands and Belgium, there

was a more sinister side to the liaisons. It was called Lebensborn, or Fountain of Life.

The program had been set up by German SS chief Heinrich Himmler in 1935 to propagate Aryan children. After the Nazis overran Germany's neighbor states in 1940, German occupation soldiers were encouraged to find suitable local mates. Once pregnant, the women could turn to one of 10 homes, which would eventually register about 8,000 Lebensborn children. The first opened in March 1941.

A Lebensborn home was used not as a breeding facility, as some people have believed, "but more as a care facility," said Stein U. Larsen, of the War and Children research project in the western Norway city of Bergen.

After the war, Paul Hansen was one of

many Lebensborn children who were put in mental institutions, even though their only abnormality was having a German father. Hansen is 62 now, and the memory still brings him close to tears. "Why the hell did they send us there?" he asks. "What did we do wrong?"

When the Lebensborn finally started coming out of the shadows and organizing a few years ago, the government said it was too late to investigate their postwar treatment, and the courts threw out their class action suit because the statute of limitations had expired.

In 2002, however, Parliament ordered the state to make amends, and last July the government made an offer: up to 200,000 kroner (\$31,750), depending on how much suffering the victims could document.

Frebel was furious. "The compensation offer was a slap in the face," he says. "I'll be damned if I'll sit in front of a government panel and let them decide how much I suffered."

Norway is so far the only Lebensborn-affected country to make such an offer. Denmark has at least 5,000 "German Babies."



Hansen

Frebel

# Dutch study: Most euthanasia of newborns unreported

The Associated Press

At least five more killings of newborns occur for every one reported to authorities in the Netherlands, doctors there reported just months after the first stinging news of the controversial practice.

While still very rare, euthanizing terminally ill newborns is more common than first believed, according to Dutch doctors, and other experts say it also occurs, quietly, in other countries.

Since 1985, the Netherlands has allowed euthanasia for competent adults.

In 2002, doctors at University Medical Center Groningen helped create the so-called Groningen protocol, a list of standards for reporting and reporting of newborns with serious, incurable deformities. The aim was to encourage more reporting and discussion.

Two pediatricians at the hospital, Drs. Pieter J.J.

Sauer and Eduard Verhagen, report in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine that 22 mercy killings of newborns who otherwise would have lingered in intensive care for years were reported to authorities from 1997 to 2004, about three each year. But national surveys of Dutch doctors have found 15 to 20 such cases a year, out of about 200,000 births.

Verhagen, who supports such euthanasia, said in an interview the doctors were allowed to review district attorneys' records on the 22 reported cases. None was prosecuted.

"We believe that all cases must be reported if the country is to prevent uncontrolled and unjustified euthanasia," the doctors wrote.

The Groningen protocol requires being sure that the newborn is suffering greatly with no hope of improvement, that the prognosis is certain and confirmed by at least one independent doctor, and that both parents give informed consent.

## Validating newborn euthanasia

Since 1997, there have been 22 reported cases of euthanasia among Dutch newborns with a chance of survival but a hopeless prognosis of unbearable suffering. Doctors reported the following considerations in making the decision.

Consideration	Number of cases
Functional disability and severe pain with hopeless prognosis	22
Lack of self-sufficiency	19
Future inability to communicate	18
Expected hospital dependency	17
Long life expectancy	13

\*If life expectancy is long, the burden of other factors is considered greater

SOURCE: New England Journal of Medicine

AP

## IN THE STATES

## Atlanta judge, two others slain

By HARRY R. WEBER

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — A judge presiding over a rape trial was shot to death Friday along with two other people at the Fulton County Courthouse. A fourth person was wounded and a search was under way for the suspect, the defendant in the trial.

Lt. Gov. Mark Taylor confirmed that Superior Court Judge

Rowland Barnes and his court reporter were killed. He gave no other details in connection with the deaths in the state Senate. A deputy died later at a hospital, while a second deputy had minor wounds, police said.

The judge was shot on the eighth floor of the courthouse, while one deputy was shot on a street corner just outside the building, said police Officer Alan Osborne.

Authorities were searching for a green 1997 Honda Accord that was carjacked from a newspaper reporter. The reporter, Don O'Brien, was treated at a local hospital and in good condition.

Fulton County Police Lt. Clarence Huber identified the suspect as 33-year-old Brian Nichols, who was on trial on rape and other charges stemming from an incident in August. It was not immediately known how the suspect got a gun.

County employee Ali Lamei, who works on a floor below where the shooting started, said he was told by officers in the building that a sheriff's sergeant was escorting a prisoner when the prisoner grabbed the sergeant's gun and shootings occurred.

A sheriff's deputy died at Grady Hospital and a second was being treated for graze wounds, police Sgt. John Quigley said.

## Fla. right-to-die case

TAMPA, Fla. — A man fighting to have a feeding tube removed from his brain-damaged wife on Friday rejected a California businessman's offer to pay him \$1 million to give up his right to decide her medical treatment.

Thursdays, which the husband's attorney labeled "offensive," came hours after a judge refused to let the state's social services agency intervene — a move that would have delayed next week's scheduled removal of the tube.

Other such offers, including one for \$10 million, had already been made and rejected by Michael Schiavo, said his attorney, George Felos.

Terri Schiavo's parents are trying to keep her alive.

## Poll: Issue bad for Bush

WASHINGTON — President Bush loses backing from independents, women and older Americans when he changes the topic from terrorism and foreign policy to overhauling Social Security, an Associated Press poll found.

While a majority of Americans approve of Bush's handling of terrorism and foreign policy, just over a third, 37 percent, like his approach to Social Security.

The war on terrorism was the principal theme of Bush's re-election campaign, yet he has focused in the early days of his second term on Social Security.

## Smart suspect removed

SALT LAKE CITY — Elizabeth Smart kidnapping suspect Brian David Mitchell was kicked out of court again Friday for breaking into song during a hearing to gauge his mental competency for trial.

Mitchell already had been removed from his last three hearings after singing religious hymns and Bible verses.

After the judge ordered Mitchell ejected, testimony resumed from defense expert Stephen Golding, who has said Mitchell has become more mentally disturbed and unfit for trial.

## 11 die in house fire

NEW ORLEANS — A flaming mattress and a pile of boxes turned a suburban New Orleans family's new home into a fiery deathtrap in which 11 people died, investigators said Friday as they pieced together exactly how the deaths occurred.

The fire early Thursday was believed to have been ignited by candles, said Fred Williams of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office.

From The Associated Press

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## Clinton recovering

NEW YORK — Former President Clinton was in good spirits and looking forward to getting on his feet after surgery to remove scar tissue and fluid from his left lung, his wife said.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, were at the hospital Thursday as doctors cleaned up complications from Clinton's heart bypass operation of six months ago.

Hospital officials predicted "even better than a full recovery" for the former president following the four-hour operation and predicted Clinton would be walking within 24 hours.

## Suspected mob ties

NEW YORK — Two retired police detectives living in Las Vegas led double lives as Mafia hitmen while on the force and gave confidential information to the mob for more than a decade, federal prosecutors charged.

Louis Eppolito and his former partner, Stephen Caracappa, were arrested Wednesday night at a restaurant of the Las Vegas Strip, law enforcement officials said Thursday.

Each is charged with eight murders, two attempted murders, murder conspiracy, obstruction of justice, drug distribution and money laundering.

## Wrong drug given

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center administered the wrong kind of penicillin to more than 650 patients who were being treated for syphilis or who had reported having contact with someone known or believed to have the disease, a federal investigation has shown.

That's more than twice as many patients as previously thought.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday that the inadvertent use of the wrong drug was discovered only after a patient read a package insert stating that the medicine he had received was not intended for treatment of syphilis.

Use of the wrong drug by the Gay & Lesbian Center began in January 1999 and continued until the error was discovered a year ago, officials said. At that time, about 300 patients were thought to have been given the wrong drug.

## New rule limits smog

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration set new limits on smog and soot pollution Thursday with the aim of benefiting tens of millions of people who live downwind of the dirtiest coal-fired power plants in the East, South and Midwest.

The new regulation covers 28 states, mostly east of the Mississippi River, and the District of Columbia. It requires most of them to cut smog-forming nitrogen oxides and soot-producing sulfur dioxide that can drift by wind long distances across state lines, the Environmental Protection Agency said.

From wire services

# Zoo's pandas in the mood to mate

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Love is in the air at the National Zoo's panda house.

The zoo's female panda, Mei Xiang, has begun her annual mating season and had two mating encounters Thursday with the male panda, Tian Tian, zoo spokeswoman Pepper Long said.

"I don't think there's been a strong successful mating yet, but we still have time to give them," Long said.

The pandas will get several more opportunities over the next couple of days before zoo officials try artificial insemination.

Last year, Tian Tian did not show enough sustained interest in

mating with Mei Xiang for a successful breeding. An attempt at artificial insemination was also unsuccessful.

This year, the zoo is hoping to give the pandas a better chance for success by closing their exhibit to the public during the mating period.

Experts in China and at other U.S. zoos have also advised that the pandas be brought inside and separated to create expectation between the two. They will be put together for short periods, then separated, with that process repeated at different times.

Those who want to see the panda's progress for themselves can check out the panda web-cams on the National Zoo's Web site.



ROBERT A. REEDER/The Washington Post

The National Zoo in Washington, D.C., has closed the Panda House to visitors to encourage Mei Xiang, left, and Tian Tian to mate. The pandas are in the fifth year of a 10-year loan from China.

Those cameras are operated by behavior monitors who are looking for signs that Mei Xiang is pregnant.

Mei Xiang, 6, and Tian Tian, 7, are the National Zoo's second pair

of giant pandas. Both went on exhibit in December 2000 and are on a 10-year loan from China.

The zoo said any baby would belong to China, and would likely be sent there.

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Allen

Gates

Stewart

## Gates still No. 1 on list of billionaires

BY MADLEN READ  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Thanks to a surge in demand for steel, the Internet and Scandinavian sofas, there are some new names among the very richest of the world's billionaires.

Indian steel mogul Lakshmi Mittal, Mexican telecom magnate Carlos Slim Helu and Ikea founder Ingvar Kamprad of Sweden knocked several Wal-Mart heirs down a few notches on Forbes magazine's 2005 rankings of the world's billionaires.

The billionaires are richer and more numerous for the second straight year, but the No. 1 spot is unchanged — Microsoft Corp. founder Bill Gates led the list for the eleventh year in a row with a net worth of \$46.5 billion, slightly less than his \$46.6 billion last year.

Investor Warren Buffett held a close second with \$44 billion, up from \$42.9 billion in 2004.

Mittal — the biggest dollar gainer — edged quadrupling his net worth by \$18.8 billion to \$25 billion — climbed 59 rungs from last year to No. 3 in 2005.

Helu came in fourth, up from No. 17 in 2004; Saudi Arabian investor Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Alsaad ranked No. 5; and Ikea's Kamprad rose to No. 6 from No. 13 last year.

Rounding out the top 10 were Microsoft's Paul Allen, German supermarket company owner Karl Albrecht, Oracle Corp.'s Lawrence Ellison — returning to

the top 10 after slipping to No. 12 last year — and Wal-Mart Stores Inc.'s S. Robson Walton.

Four other Waltons took spots 11 through 13, with Alice and Helen Walton once again sharing the title of richest woman in the world with \$18 billion each. The five family members of the late Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton are together worth over \$90 billion.

The number of billionaires grew to a record 691 from 587 last year, and their total net worth rose by \$300 billion to \$2.2 trillion.

A confluence of factors contributed to the increase, said Forbes associate editor Luisa Kroll, including positive performance by many stock markets around the world — for example, in Ukraine and Iceland, countries that debuted on the list along with Kazakhstan and Poland — and the falling dollar.

Between February 2004 and February 2005, the 12-nation euro rose about 4 percent against the dollar, while the British pound rose about 3 percent versus the U.S. currency.

"If you're a euro-based billionaire, you could've done nothing and seen a 20 percent increase" over the past two years, Kroll said.

One of this year's new billionaires — and one of the list's 68 women, up from 53 last year — was Martha Stewart, whose wealth swelled to \$1 billion despite her conviction for lying about a stock sale and ensuing five-month prison stint.

## Jackson nearly broke, prosecutors contend

By TIM MOLLOY  
The Associated Press

**SANTA MARIA, Calif.** — Prosecutors seeking access to Michael Jackson's financial records told the judge in his child molestation trial Friday that the singer may be "on the precipice of bankruptcy."

Assistant District Attorney Gordon Auchincloss said during a hearing on motions that prosecutors believe financial problems may have motivated Jackson to take part in an alleged conspiracy to hold his accuser's family captive and try to get them to help rebut a TV documentary that damaged the singer's public image.

Superior Court Judge Rodney S. Melville did not immediately rule on that question.

Prosecutors believe Jackson may be \$300 million in debt and his financial troubles "will all come crashing down on him in December of 2005," Auchincloss said. "All we are looking for is a concise snapshot of the defendant's financial condition," he said.

Jackson attorney Robert Sanger said that Auchincloss' statements, "whether they are accurate or not, and I don't believe they are, are totally irrelevant to this."

Sanger said that what was at issue was Jackson's financial picture in February and March 2003, the time of the alleged conspiracy.

On Thursday, Jackson argued the judge by his side. When the trial got under way, the accuser described a night at the Neverland ranch that he said started off in the arcade and ended in the entertainer's bed.

The 15-year-old boy told jurors that Jackson on that particular night asked him if he ever found himself and offered to "do it for me."

"He said if men don't masturbate they can get to a level where they might rape a girl or they can be kind of unstable," the boy said of Jackson.

The boy described how he and Jackson drank alcohol and looked at sex magazines together. He said Jackson molested him twice, both times in the singer's bedroom, and that they both wore pairs of Jackson's pajamas.

The second incident occurred "about a day after" the first encounter, he said. In the second instance, he said, he resisted an attempt by Jackson to place the boy's hand on Jackson's genital area.

The accuser's testimony differed from his 14-year-old brother's description of witnessing two molestations, and it was unclear if they were talking about the same alleged incidents.

Defense attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. accused the witness of making up the story. "After you met with an attorney, you came up with a story that you were masturbated by Michael Jackson," said Mesereau.

"No, I never told him about anything," the boy said, referring to the lawyer.



NBC/AP

"Tonight Show" host Jay Leno, center, wearing SpongeBob SquarePants pajamas, bunny slippers and flanked by bodyguards, arrives "late" Thursday for his show at the NBC studios in Burbank, Calif., in a spoof of Michael Jackson arriving late to court in Santa Maria, Calif.

## Judge: Gag does not apply to Leno jokes

Comedian had been creatively dodging order

The Associated Press

**SANTA MARIA, Calif.** — The judge in the Michael Jackson trial delivered the punch line Friday that Jay Leno has been wanting to hear: The comedian is allowed to crack jokes at Jackson's expense.

Judge Rodney S. Melville made his ruling about Leno as he clarified a gag order preventing everyone involved in the case from discussing it. Leno has been subpoenaed to testify at the trial, and the comedian feared that the order would apply to his monologues on "The Tonight Show."

"I am not attempting to prevent anybody from making a living in the normal way that they make their living," the judge ruled, adding that Leno may not talk about the specific things to which he is a witness.

Before the ruling, Leno was finding creative ways to make jokes about Jackson without opening his mouth.

After arriving "late" for the taping of Thursday's "Tonight Show," Leno stepped out of a black limousine wearing SpongeBob SquarePants pajamas and accompanied by several bodyguards. One of the bodyguards held an open umbrella over Le-

no's head as the comedian remained silent when asked why he was late. (Earlier in the day, Jackson had arrived late to court wearing pajama bottoms and a T-shirt out a coat.)

Then, as he has in recent days, he called on another comedian, Drew Carey, to handle that night's Jackson duty. "Michael Jackson showed up to court late today wearing his pajama bottoms," Carey told the audience. "You know what? You find the judge to restrict Leno today and we have another court case on our hands."

Leno may be called to testify about having contact with Jackson's accuser or his mother. The defense contends the family tried to bribe Leno and others out of money.

Jackson attorney Robert Sanger said Leno has made "very cruel jokes" about the pop star that could affect how he might testify, and he urged the judge to restrict Leno further. "We're not putting him out of his business if he can't talk about Michael Jackson for a few weeks," Sanger said.

Media attorney Theodore Bontrous Jr. argued for the clarification on the gag order on grounds Leno's First Amendment rights were violated.

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March 16, 2005





Fifteen-month-old Qudrat Wardak, of Afghanistan, is carried Tuesday by his father, Hakimgul Wardak, 32, in Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis. Surgeons operated on the reversed blood vessels in Qudrat's heart. The U.S. military flew the boy and his father to the States after an Indiana National Guard doctor diagnosed the child's heart problem.

## Afghan child has successful surgery at Indiana hospital

BY JEANINE IBRAHIM  
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — A 15-month-old Afghan boy was breathing on his own Wednesday following surgery to repair a life-threatening heart defect that had been diagnosed by a U.S. military doctor working in a refugee camp.

Surgeons at the Riley Hospital for Children operated on Qudrat Wardak for about six hours Tuesday to move the reversed main blood vessels in his heart into their proper place.

Dr. Mark Turrentine said Tuesday he was pleased and thankful to see Qudrat doing so well after the high-risk operation. The boy was listed in serious but stable condition Wednesday.

"He's doing rather well," hospital spokesman Jon Mills said. The first 24 to 48 hours after surgery are the most critical as doctors monitor Qudrat to ensure that his heart is functioning properly, Turrentine said.

"Once he's taking formula and we know he's doing well on his own, he could be released," said Dr. Robert Darraugh, a pediatric cardiologist.

The U.S. military flew Qudrat and his father from Afghanistan nearly two weeks ago for the surgery after an Indiana National Guard doctor diagnosed the heart problem during an exam at the camp in the Afghan capital, Kabul.

After Qudrat is discharged, he will be further monitored for a couple of weeks and then be able to go back to Afghanistan, where he most likely would not need any medication or medical assistance, Darraugh said.

Qudrat's condition is called transposition of the great arteries, in which the aorta and pulmonary artery are reversed, sending oxygen-rich blood from the heart to the lungs and oxygen-poor blood into the rest of the body.

The boy, who at 13 pounds weighs about as much as a typical 5-month-old, also suffers from other heart problems, which combine to restrict his blood flow and stunt his development, Riley doctors have said.

Qudrat's father, Hakimgul Wardak, 32, was exhausted after staying up all night Monday with his son and then Tuesday morning carrying him into the operating room.

"He's very overwhelmed and happy after he saw his son in the operating room and doctors told him how super Qudrat was feeling," Wardak's interpreter said.

The surgeons were donating their time to help the boy, and the local Rotary Club is covering other costs.

Doctors at Riley who examined Qudrat after he arrived Feb. 25 found his condition was more serious than first thought, and the surgery had to be postponed while he was treated for respiratory and eye infections.

# New heart pump gives hope to even the tiniest patients

BY JENNIFER C. YATES  
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Shanah Bridgett's heart failed when she was only 8, Carlos Ochoa was 7 when his heart began to stiffen, limiting its pumping ability. Miles Coulson was just weeks old when doctors discovered he had an enlarged heart.

All of these children may have died, doctors say, if not for an experimental, child-size artificial heart pump that kept them alive while awaiting transplants.

For years, pumps have been used successfully for adults awaiting transplants. But only recently have U.S. researchers focused attention on devices for the tiniest heart patients. Because so few children need such technology — maybe 30 or 40 a year in the United States — there has been no commercial interest in producing such pumps here.

At Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, surgeons have been working with a European ventricular assist device called the Berlin Heart.

They have implanted the device, approved for use in Europe, in Shanah and another child.

"It's the difference between a dead child and a live child," said Dr. Steven Webber, medical director of the hospital's heart transplantation program.

Shanah was near death when she got her implant; eight days later, she received a donor heart. Now her mother often has to hold her for doing one-handed cartwheels.

"She's doing phenomenal," said Lori Bridgett, of Pittsburgh.

The pediatric Berlin Heart has only been used in the United States 12 times, in each case with emergency government approval.

The German company that makes the device, Berlin Heart AG, plans to seek approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, said chief executive Rene Garo.

Some children develop heart disease from a virus or other illness; others — more than 30,000 a year in the United States — are born with heart defects, according to the National Institutes of Health.

Surgery helps in many cases, but for some the only solution is a transplant, which means waiting with a dangerously weak heart until there's a donor.

Webber said about 25 percent of children waiting for new hearts die before receiving a transplant, and the Berlin Heart could reduce that number.

The device, also known as EXCOR, sits outside of the body and is connected to the heart and vessels by a pair of tubes. It takes some of the workload off the ventricles by taking blood from the atria and pumping it to the lungs and then the body.

But there's been little incentive for U.S. companies to invest in manufacturing these or going through the lengthy and expensive FDA approval process, said Dr. Mark W. Turrentine, co-director of Pediatric Cardiac and Pulmonary Transplantation at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

"They really couldn't justify that cost because it's such a low-volume market. They'd never recoup the cost," he said. Berlin Heart pumps have been used three times on children at the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, where Turrentine is a surgeon.

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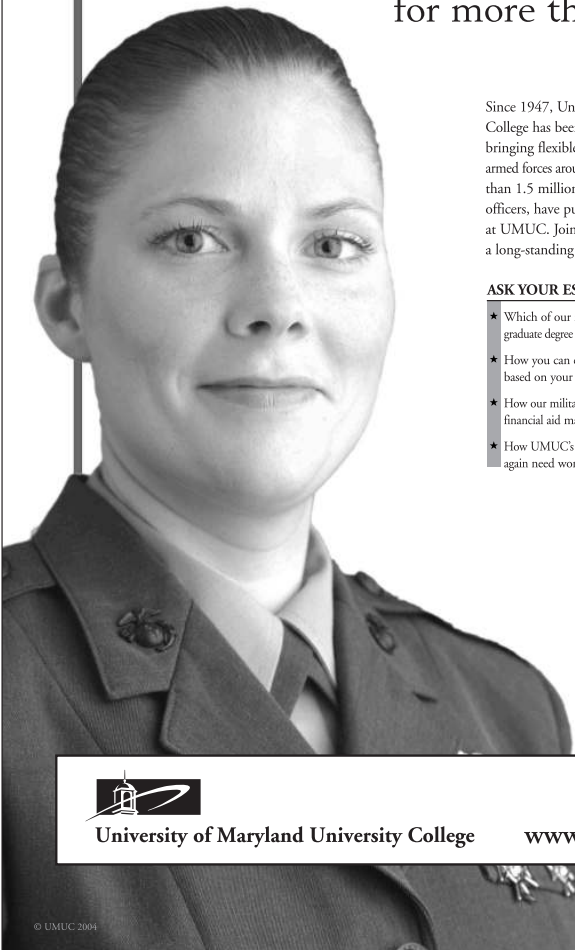
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# Bourbon, iced tea toasted in New Orleans

BY JANET MCCONNAUGHEY  
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — This city's liquid assets, from absinthe to iced tea, are getting a lot of attention these days.

The Louisiana State Museum has an exhibit of New Orleans beverages from bourbon to Barq's. A cocktail museum opened recently. A Southern Comfort Museum is in the works. And a group dedicated to the many cultures of Southern food is looking to collect oral histories from the city's bartenders.

What does it all mean? "We make everything an art form," says Beverly Gianna, spokeswoman for the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau. "I think the fact that we can take our food and beverage and have museums centered around that just emphasizes and underscores the joie de vivre of New Orleans. Our great spirit. Or spirits."

But then, you might expect liquor exhibits and bartender history in a city where a top attraction is Bourbon Street. OK, it's named after some old French rulers. But they're not around any more. Bars are. The 13 blocks of Bourbon Street include at least 20 bars and cocktail lounges.

"There's a lot of interesting scholarship about cocktails and New Orleans," says Amy Evans, who is looking for bartenders to interview later this month. She cited Kerri McCaffrey's photographic history book "Obituary Cocktail: The Great Saloons of New Orleans."

"Bartenders are the keepers of history and tradition and gossip and lore that is really a mother lode," Evans says.

This is the latest of several oral history projects she's done for the Southern Foodways Alliance, an affiliate of the University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture. She's also done oral histories on barbecue in Memphis and in rural Tennessee; on Greek-owned restaurants in Birmingham, Ala.; and on defunct restaurants in Oxford and Greenwood, Miss.

The project is sponsored by Southern Comfort, which hasn't been made here for more than a century. But its label shows a mansion only an hour or so from the French Quarter, where a New Orleans bartender created the recipe created 130 years ago.

Martin Wilkes Heron developed the drink in 1874, according to Brown-Forman Corp., which counts Southern Comfort among its 34 or 35 liquor and wine brands.

Heron didn't work on Bourbon Street but nearby, at a long-vanished joint called McCauley's Saloon. The drink's original name was "Cuffs and Buttons" — a nod to a popular New Orleans drink called "White Tie and Tails," says Paul Tuell, Brown-Forman's brand director for Southern Comfort.

About all Tuell knows about that drink is its name, and a reasonable guess about the main ingredient. "All of them were, at that point, whiskey based," he says.

"A Toast of New Orleans: A Salute to the Beverages of the City," which opened this



Elizabeth Williams, president of the Southern Food and Beverage Museum, stands last June before an exhibit featuring non-alcoholic and intoxicating beverages in New Orleans.

AP

past week, goes well beyond alcohol. Its topic is any drink created in or connected to the city, including soft drinks such as Barq's root beer, which went national when Coca Cola Co. bought it; iced tea (often written without its "d"), coffee with chicory and cafe au lait. Then there's all the alcohol, including the 13 breweries which once operated here, and the "go cup" — plastic cups kept at bars so that if you leave without finishing, you can take it with you.

The Southern Food and Beverage Museum put it up in donated space at the Riverwalk mall; this showing is in the Old U.S. Mint at the edge of the French Quarter.

Bloody Mary enthusiasts may want to

make plans to visit the Tabasco Museum, set to open next year a few blocks from the French Quarter in the city's Arts/Warehouse District.

"My great-grandfather Edmund McIlhenny was part of the Americanization of New Orleans. Coincidentally, it's in part of the city he helped build," said Paul McIlhenny, chief executive of Tabasco maker McIlhenny Co.

More than 150,000 tourists a year show up at the factory, associated museum and shop, and "jungle garden and bird city."

"But that's a rather obscure place south of New Iberia," McIlhenny said. "I think most people tend to think of things culinary in New Orleans."

## Daytona complex reveals new era of biker hangouts

BY MIKE SCHNEIDER  
The Associated Press

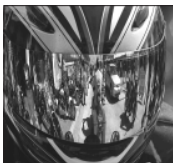
ORMOND BEACH, Fla. — Just as gamblers have Las Vegas and theme park junkies have Orlando, bikers soon will have Destination Daytona.

The 150-acre complex, as envisioned by its developers, will have condominiums, hotel rooms, a Harley-Davidson dealership, a motorcycle maintenance school, a motorcycle parts shop, restaurants, bars and a civic center.

Although Daytona Beach and surrounding communities have long been biker havens, there never has been a self-contained complex with so many biker-related venues in one place.

"People have more discretionary income and want to enjoy their motorcycles and want to enjoy their nice hotel and aren't afraid to spend money to do that," said John Parham, owner of J&P Cycles, which sells motorcycle parts and will open a store at Destination Daytona.

The first phase of Destination



A view of Main Street is reflected in the face shield of a biker's helmet as he cruises Thursday in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Daytona opens in June, but it has gotten plenty of attention at this year's Bike Week, the gathering of hundreds of thousands of motorcyclists in the Daytona Beach area last week.

"This is like, if not a Fantasyland, a Disneyland for motorcycle enthusiasts," said Jim Betlach, who works for biker magazine publisher Palsano Publications.



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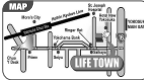
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# Physicists make 'unexpected' find

## Researchers: Mass extinction happens every 62 million years

By DAVID PERLMAN  
San Francisco Chronicle

With surprising and mysterious regularity, life on Earth has flourished and vanished in cycles of mass extinction every 62 million years, say two scientists who discovered the pattern after of painstaking computer study of fossil records going back for more than 500 million years.

Their findings are certain to generate a renewed burst of speculation among scientists who study the history and evolution of life. Each period of advanced life and each mass extinction has itself covered at least a few million years — and the trend of biodiversity has been rising steadily ever since the last mass extinction, when dinosaurs and millions of other life forms went extinct about 65 million years ago.

The University of California researchers are physicists, not biologists or geologists or paleontologists, but they have analyzed the most exhaustive compendium of fossil records that exists — data that cover the first and last known appearances of no fewer than 36,380 separate marine genera, including millions of species that once thrived in the world's seas, later virtually disappeared, and in many cases returned.

Richard Muller and his graduate student, Robert Rohde, pub-

lished a report on their exhaustive study in the journal *Nature* today, and in interviews this week, the two men said they have been working on the surprising evidence for four years.

"We've tried everything we can think of to find an explanation for these weird cycles of biodiversity and extinction," Muller said, "and so far, we've failed."

But the cycles are so clear that the evidence "simply jumps out of the data," said James Kirchner, a professor of earth and planetary sciences who has written a commentary on the report that also appeared in *Nature* today.

"Their discovery is exciting, it's unexpected and it's unexplained," Kirchner said. And it is certain, he added, to send other scientists in many disciplines seeking explanations for the strange cycles.

"Everyone and his brother will be proposing an explanation — and eventually, at least one or two will turn out to be right while all the others will be wrong."

Muller and Rohde conceded that they have puzzled through every conceivable phenomenon in nature in search of an explanation: "We've had to think about solar system dynamics, about the causes of comet showers, about how the galaxy works, and how volcanoes work, but nothing explains what we've discovered," Muller said.

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# Walter Scott's Personality PARADE

Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Write Walter Scott, Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

**Q** Paula Abdul pouts and acts like a child when she doesn't get her way on "American Idol." Why has she become so bratty? — Jack Novascione, Kenosha, Wis.

**A** There's nothing real about "reality" shows. She denies it, but we think Abdul's spoiled-child act is just that — an act scripted by the show's writers to boost ratings. Now viewers tune in not only to hear screeching amateurs but also to hear Paula screeching at nasty Simon Cowell.

**Q** Doesn't Hilary Swank's depiction of a boxer in "Million Dollar Baby" promote the demonization of women? — Mia Spengler, New York

**A** Yes — but that's not the main reason we're against women's boxing. In our opinion, no matter how hard women train, their bodies are not made to withstand the brutal punishment meted out in the ring, and they are more susceptible to irreversible injuries than men. We disagree with USA Boxing's decision to lift its ban on women in the sport in 1993.

**Q** On her last episode as Serena on "Law & Order," Elisabeth Röhm asks if she was fired because she's a lesbian. Was she? Can you tell me about her replacement? — Conrad H. Boise, Idaho

**A** The new assistant D.A. is Annie Parise, 31, best known as homicidal Julia Lindsey for four years on the soap "As the World Turns." Röhm, 28, says she secretly knew Serena was a lesbian. If so, she and producer Dick Wolf hid it from the rest of us: Serena's private life was never discussed until that out-of-left-field final episode. We call that bad writing.

**Q** Your item on Rebecca Romijn made me wonder how John Stamos is doing since their split. — Judith Meredith, Clinton, Tenn.

**A** Stamos, 41, seems determined to earn the title Playboy of the West Coast. Soon after splitting with Rebecca, 32, he hooked up with Krista Allen, 32, who will guest-star on his ABC sitcom "Freaky in a Progress," premiering stateside tonight. Stamos also has dated waitresses, a nurse and late-

ly socialite Charlotte Freund, 20.

**Q** I saw a preview of the film "Ice Princess." Does its teen star, Michelle Trachtenberg, do her own figure skating? — Robyn Richards, Chicago

**A** "I'm a pretty good skater and took a lot of lessons," Michelle, 19, tells us, "but experts doubled for me on the difficult jumps." They included six-time Canadian national champ Jennifer Robinson, 28, who finished seventh in the 2002 Winter Olympics, and newcomers Lauren Wilson and Sandra Rucker, both 17. "Ice Princess" opens stateside on Friday.

**Q** Is Donald Trump's new wife, Melania, merely eye candy, or does she play a substantive role in his world? — Ann Jones, Colorado Springs, Colo.

**A** The third Mrs. Trump, 34, has a good head on her pretty shoulders. In contrast to the tycoon's previous wife, Maria Maples, Melania is very supportive and showers him with affection in public.

Friends say The Donald, 53, has never been happier.

**Q** I adored gossip columnist Liz Smith's book "Natural Blonde." Does she plan to publish another one soon? — H.

MacAlister, Nashville, Tenn.

**A** Yes. Dishing — a memoir filled with celebrity recipes and juicy gossip — arrives next month from Simon & Schuster.

"As the old saying goes, everything I like is either illegal, immoral or fattening," says Liz, 82. "And some people do view eating as a surrogate for illicit sex. Both are wickedly tempting."



Trump: Remarried, and never happier.



Despite Renee Zellweger's recent choice of hair color, she's still among Hollywood's gold standard.

**Q** How is Ronald Reagan's first wife, Jane Wyman, these days? — J. Jones, Crofton, Md.

**A** The 91-year-old Oscar winner (1948's Johnny Belinda) is charming, mentally sharp as ever and involved with the Arthritis Foundation. Wyman and the late president (married 1940-48) had a daughter, Maureen, who died of melanoma in 2001 at 60, and a son, Michael, now 59.

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A&amp;E, GRB/AP

Alyson, one of the two drug addicts in an episode of A&E's "The Intervention," appears in a scene from the unscripted show.

# New reality shows addicted to vice

BY LYNN ELBER

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Smokers struggling to kick the dangerous habit. The obese abusing, shed life-threatening fat. Drug abusers, gamblers and shopaholics challenged to get control of shattered lives.

That's entertainment in the world of Ad-dictTV. Networks have found there is wrenching drama in putting human weakness and the fight to overcome it on camera. "Cold Turkey," beginning its second season on Fox this week in the States, gathers 10 smokers on the pretext they have been cast in a reality adventure show. Then they learn the cold truth: there's a contest and a cash prize, but to win they must give up cigarettes without aids.

Players on NBC's "The Biggest Loser," now in production for its second season, know just what they're in for and get help in the form of personal trainers and diet guidance. But, like lab rats left in the care of a bored technician, the shows try and they fail.

On "Cold Turkey," a sexy blonde and frat boys are brought in to blow smoke, literally, at contestants whose nerves and willpower are frayed. "The Biggest Loser" makes fattening food easily available and dares players to resist.

The rationale is that the outside world contains temptations, so the shows should, too. Accepting that requires on to believe that networks are more interested in salvaging wounds than in earning ratings.

Could a class of programs that at first

glance seems so clearly exploitive be defensible? To hear those with the most at stake tell it, yes.

In the first season of "Cold Turkey," lung cancer victim Deborah Taylor met with contestants and implored them to end the habit that would ultimately prove fatal for her.

"She kept saying she was very proud she had done that. ... She was proud that she may have made a difference for some people," her doctor recounts in a reunion show.

Alyson sees it that way. The former drug abuser is among those featured in A&E's new series "Intervention," in which addicts get a shot at recovery after revealing how far they have fallen.

"I would do it again in a heartbeat," she said of the documentary program.

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## FACES

# Outrageous for all ages

Actor Alan Cumming enjoys roles that appeal to lighter side

BY NANCY MILLS  
New York Daily News

HOLLYWOOD

**L**ater this month, as befits an international star of stage and screen, Alan Cumming will launch his own fragrance. Cumming, "Originally it was for men," he says, "but women love it. So I'm saying it's 'beyond gender.'" "

It's also beyond the age of the target audience for "Son of the Mask," a sort of prequel to Jim Carrey's 1994 "The Mask." Released in the States on Feb. 18, the film brought in about \$16 million in its first three weeks.

Cumming plays Loki, the Norse God of Mischief, who created the mask and now will go to any length — and any disguise — to get it back. No costume or hair style is too demeaning, if it gets a laugh.

"Sometimes people get really snuffy about the films you choose if you've done more dramatic projects or you're classically trained," says Cumming, who studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Dance.

"But I love a film where I get squished by two Dumpsters or I fly through the air."

The outrageous Cumming has a career that goes both ways. His heavyweight credits include "Cabaret," his Tony Award-winning revival in 1998, and heavy dramas such as "Eyes Wide Shut" (1999).

Then there's the more mainstream "Emma" (opposite Gwyneth Paltrow), "X2" and TV versions of "Annie" and "The Goodbye Girl." Kids flock to him because of "Spy Kids," "The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas" and "Black Beauty."

"What I really liked about 'Son of the Mask' was the homage to Looney Tunes and 'One Froggy

Evening,'" Cumming, 40, says. "Kids are more genuine. When they come up and want to talk to you, they don't have an agenda. It's more endearing and less piercing to your aura."

Cumming is "like a finely-tuned Rolls Royce," says "Son of the Mask" director Lawrence Guterman. "He exudes such confidence as he chews up the scenery."

He chews more scenery in "Reefer Madness," a musical airing on Showtime in April. In a parody of the 1936 anti-marijuana film, he plays the emcee-like Lecturer, President Roosevelt and Goat-Man.

"I thought it was a funny story," he says. "What our film is saying is that we're encouraged to be scared about certain things — in

the movie it's marijuana, which is not very scary at all. But it takes up all your energy and you don't worry about the really important things that are going on."

After President Bush's re-election, Cumming thought about leaving America and New York, where he has lived since 1998 (and "Cabaret").

But he decided he had too many commitments here.

He's already at work on "Bam Bam and Celeste," in which he plays Margaret Cho's love interest. After that comes "X3," reprising his role as the shape shifter Nightcrawler.

Then there are more films to promote: "Mr. Ripley's Return," "Neverwas," "Ant Bully," "Eighteen," and "Wedding Photo," in which he plays a 1920s Minnesota farmer with 10 children.



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# 'American Idol' viewers pick 12 finalists

The Associated Press



The 12 "American Idol" semifinalists gather on stage Wednesday in Los Angeles. In front row, from left, Scott Savol, Bo Bice, Vonzell Solomon and Constantine Maroulis. At top are, from left, Carrie Underwood, Lindsey Cardinale, Anthony Fedorov, Jessica Sierra, Anwar F. Robinson, Mikalah Gordon, Nadia Turner and Mario Vazquez.

LOS ANGELES — The 12 "American Idol" semifinalists picked by television viewers include a Ukrainian-born college student, a martial arts black-belt holder and a bartender-waitress.

The No. 1-rated Fox series, which is reaching up to 30 million viewers an episode in its fourth season, eliminated four contestants Wednesday to pare the field. Judges Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul had narrowed the field from thousands of hopefuls nationwide, but viewers decided the final dozen.

Gathered at a post-show celebration, the finalists exulted in their good fortune. "Of course, I'm excited to be here," said Carrie Underwood, who turned 22 on Thursday. Constantine Maroulis echoed the sentiment. "I'm 29 years old and I've been working very hard in this business for a long time and to get this opportunity is just amazing," he said.

Men and women had been competing separately, but cross-gender competition will begin Tuesday, when the program returns to twice-weekly airings (on AFN-Spectrum at 7:30 p.m., repeating at 1:30 a.m. Wednesday morning). Its finale is scheduled for May 24-25.

The 12 semifinalists competing for the title and a record contract are:

■ Bo Bice, 29, Helena, Ala. Has performed live and recorded with Johnny Neel of the Allman Brothers.

■ Anthony Fedorov, 19, Treviso, Pa. The Ukrainian-born Fedorov is a college student who sings on weekends in New York City.

■ Constantine Maroulis, 29, New York City. A graduate of the Boston Conservatory, he has a hard rock band called Pray for the Soul of Betty.

■ Anwar F. Robinson, 25, Elizabeth, N.J. Teaches at a New Jersey middle school and is a member of a group called The Perfect Combination.

■ Scott Savol, 28, Shaker Heights,

Ohio. Father of a 4-year-old, he plays the trumpet and performs at city and church functions.

■ Mario Vazquez, 27, New York City. Was a member of the City Kids Repertory Group and works with emerging New York musical artists.

■ Lindsey Cardinale, 20, Ponchatoula, La. A university student who plays guitar, piano and drums.

■ Mikalah Gordon, 17, Las Vegas. A high school junior who performed at the White House with the Helen Joy Young Entertainers.

■ Jessica Sierra, 19, Tampa, Fla. Works as a nanny and has performed at talent shows, corporate events and in church.

■ Vonzell Solomon, 20, Fort Myers, Fla. Attended a high school for the arts and has a martial arts black belt.

■ Nadia Turner, 28, Miami. A bartender and waitress and member of the Tool Box, a rock-soul Christian band.

■ Carrie Underwood, 22, Checotah, Okla. A college senior, she plays guitar and piano and rescues stray animals.

## Jagger sex footage banned

A British judge banned the broadcast of video footage showing Elizabeth Jagger engaging in "sexual activities" with her boyfriend in a nightclub.

Jagger, daughter of Mick Jagger and Jerry Hall, sought the injunction against John Darling, manager of Kabare's Prophecy Nightclub in London.

High Court Judge Rodger Bell ruled Wednesday that Jagger, 20, and boyfriend Calum Best, son of former soccer star George Best, had a "legitimate expectation of privacy" when they engaged in sexual activities just inside the club's doors on Feb. 17.

The couple were captured on a closed-circuit television camera that they had failed to notice.



Jagger

## R&B singer Levert indicted

A Cuyahoga County, Ohio, grand jury indicted Gerald Levert on assault charges in a confrontation with police during a traffic stop last month.

Earlier this month, prosecutor Anthony Jordan said there was no evidence the R&B singer caused serious physical harm to patrolmen Ronald W. Ross and Daniel Lentz.

Levert, 38, was charged with drunken driving, impeding traffic, obstructing police business and resisting arrest.

On Tuesday, a grand jury indicted Levert on two charges of felonious assault and a charge of obstructing official business. Police said Levert and a passenger in his car intervened when authorities stopped a friend of Levert's for speeding at 12:45 a.m. on Feb. 25.

Levert is the son of Eddie Levert, a founding member of The O'Jays, a long-time R&B group. Gerald Levert became lead singer of the trio Levert in 1985. He began his solo recording career in 1991.



Gerald Levert

## Jackson's 'second life' after crash

Reggie Jackson feels he's on a "second life" after surviving a car crash last week in which his vehicle flipped over several times in Florida.

The Hall of Famer, a New York Yankees special adviser and spring training instructor, was treated at a hospital and released after his sport utility vehicle was struck from behind Friday night.

"You wonder why you survive," Jackson, 38, said Tuesday. "I've struggled more emotionally. Now I have a second life. I've been blessed again. Thank God for having a hand on my shoulder. I just thank God I had my seat belt on."

Jackson is stiff and sore, but several cuts on his head and bruises caused by his seat belt. The driver of the other car, Miguel Angel Rivera, 34, of Temple Terrace, Fla., remained hospitalized Tuesday but is improving and will recover from his injuries, Tampa police spokesman Joe Durkin said.

"I feel a lot better," Jackson said. "Let me tell you, when the doctor and nurse told me I could go home and there were no internal injuries, I felt as good as when I hit the three homers," he added, a reference to his performance in Game 6 of the 1977 World Series.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

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## Stop the English lessons

It is a sad state of affairs when some of our officers have nothing better to do than attempt to give English lessons to others via the soldiers' newspaper, Stars and Stripes ("Grade-school errors frequent," letter, March 5).

1, and many like me, couldn't care less what a reflexive pronoun is, let alone what it does. Maybe staff officers allow lower-level commanders to commit signatures to flawed documents, because the lower-level officers do not have time to nit-pick every grammatical entry on every document they sign.

They and we, the noncommissioned officers, have more important details to attend to, such as precombat checks, precombat inspections, battle drills and keeping soldiers alive in a hostile and unforgiving environment.

I, for one, have neither the time nor the inclination to peruse everything I write and, believe me, I write a lot of stuff. I type as I speak, as does most of the civilized world. I believe we could all get a lot more done if everyone would just do their jobs, and quit worrying about what the rest of the world is writing or saying.

Oh, and by the way, the Close Combat Badge should be made available for all soldiers who have gone "outside the wire" in defense of a country in pursuit of democracy, not just a chosen few.

Please excuse any grammatical errors I may have committed.

Master Sgt. Jerry Chambers

Mosul, Iraq

## Americans remembered fondly

From mid-December 2004 to mid-February 2005 the city of Colmar, and especially the village of Alsace, France, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their liberation in World War II. My husband, Lt. Col. Timothy R. Stoy, and I were privileged to attend numerous ceremonies, and at each one we were welcomed with respect and affection. The people in this part of France still remember our States and think fondly of the United States.

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I would like Stripes readers to know that there are still many people in France who remember the United States fondly and still like Americans.

Army Capt. Monika C. Stoy (retired)

Halstenbek, Germany

## Diversity of opinion appreciated

I am writing in regards to the complaint about Garry Trudeau's "Doonesbury" comic strip (letter, "Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap,'" March 2).

While I found the letter writer's comments nearly as entertaining as I find Trudeau's comic strip, it was still a bit disturbing to read such comments. The letter writer's anger toward Stars and Stripes for publishing the "left-wing-subcutaneous-slandering piece-of-crap" comic is misdirected.

I applaud Stripes for publishing comics, features, articles and opinion pieces that illustrate different points of view. The U.S. military is made up of people from all walks of political and cultural life.

For many people stationed overseas, Stars and Stripes is one of their few sources of news and information. I am sure the letter writer can appreciate diversity of opinion and freedom of press in a place like Iraq. The exchange of ideas and public discourse is critical to a democracy.

Those who are asked to defend it deserve a forum to read various points of view.

Staff Sgt. Gregory Bumgardner

Ar Ramadi, Iraq

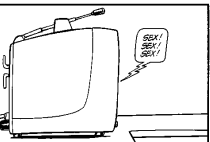
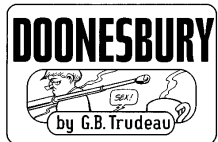
## Stripes is reminder of home

I just wanted to thank [Stripes reporters and editors] for a wonderful newspaper. It reminds me of home, especially with the bits of information from around the States. Every time there's a page around, I grab it. You have a way of keeping people entertained.

Thank you again for making home seem just a little closer.

Mary Butler

Camp Anacoda, Kuwait



## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

### The death of states' rights? The Observer-Reporter, Washington, Pa.

We won't go as far as columnist George Will did, calling the U.S. Supreme Court's ban on sentencing juveniles to death "an intellectual train wreck." But we acknowledge that even among people who agree with the outcome of this month's decision, there are those who feel the court intruded into an issue that should properly be addressed by state legislatures.

Although the numbers have dwindled in recent years, there were still 18 states that as of this month permitted the execution of people who commit crimes when they are 16 or 17 years old. ... And there is considerable public sentiment for the trend to treat younger criminals as adults. ...

Of course, we don't actually execute juveniles. With the length of the appeals process, we let them grow up on death row before we kill them.

If we really have a problem with that, if there is a national consensus to no longer do so, state legislatures should be under considerable public pressure to change their laws. Unfortunately, there appears to be no such demand, and the Supreme Court has once again stepped into the legislative arena to curtail state laws. Now, New Jersey's two senators are leading the charge to send this gun packing.

### Five-Seve'n's number is up The Express-Times, Easton, Pa.

A Belgium gun manufacturer has figured out a way to put a large amount of firepower into a small package. Now, New Jersey's two senators are leading the charge to send this gun packing.

The handgun, Five-Seve'n, is an assault pistol that's lightweight. It's so small that it can easily be tucked inside a pocket. Yet it's so powerful it can rip through bulletproof or Kevlar vests. ...

In November, after police in Connecticut seized one of these guns, our Homeland Security Department issued a safety alert to law enforcement officials. The following month another one of these weapons turned up on the streets of Camden County, N.J., in the hands of an alleged drug dealer. ...

We need to closely protect and defend every American's right to bear arms. But ... this weapon isn't for any legitimate use. It's a miniature killing machine. And it must be kept out of the hands of criminals. ...

There is no legitimate reason for law-abiding citizens to be packing these armor-piercing pistols. Banning them would in no way weaken the Second Amendment or weaken the power of the National Rifle Association and other gun lobbies. ...

Congress should ban not only the Five-Seve'n but this class of weapon with the potential to do so much harm. And no good.

### Fix Social Security in due time

The King County Journal, Bellevue, Wash.

President Bush is still stumbling for changing Social Security, but he's not alone among people want to slow the process down.

Given the significance of any changes, Congress should plan on more discussion and legislation. ...

The president wants future retirees to divert part of their Social Security payroll deductions into personal investment accounts, a plan that he says will give them the possibility of greater retirement benefits and take some pressure off Social Security. ...

That may be what would happen, but like many things, the details are the details. So far, the details are far from clear. ...

What is apparent is that there are many in-

dividuals and organizations with concerns and questions. ...

What's important is to come up with a fix to Social Security that puts the Depression-era program on firm financial ground for the long run. For now, there's no agreement that the president's ideas do this. ...

Republicans in Congress say it may not be possible to craft a Social Security bill this year. That's not necessarily bad, especially if the time is spent further refining and explaining the options to fix the program.

### Stewart's plan: A good thing? The Times Herald-Record, Middletown, N.Y.

One of the secrets to things turning a rewarding life, so the gurus of such living tell us, is being able to glean positive results from whatever comes your way, especially the self-generated nasty stuff. Lemonade from lemons, etc. ...

Once again, Martha Stewart shows us the way. The maven of stylish living has apparently managed to transform the tackiness of being sentenced to five months in a federal prison into a model for personal rehabilitation. Forget Martha the Merciless, aloof corporate bully. Say hello to Martha the Humble, friend of the downtrodden and advocate for prison reform. ...

But there has always been something a little different about Stewart, something that compels attention. ... What she says and does, likes and dislikes, matters to a lot of people. So if there are positives to be drawn from her incarceration, they ought not be casually dismissed as just another celebrity story. ...

None of this is guaranteed, of course. If the new Stewart is really a false image being marketed for broad consumption, consumers will figure that out soon enough. Selling sheets is easier than peddling false humility. In that case, Stewart's story will still be instructive, although the lemonade will be unappealingly sour.

### FEMA at center of a storm Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's response to Florida's battering by four hurricanes last year may come under some much-needed congressional scrutiny. ...

U.S. Reps. Katherine Harris and Mark Foley have called for hearings to investigate how FEMA distributed relief aid. ... Foley, R-West Palm Beach, is irritated that FEMA

has taken so long to reimburse counties for hurricane cleanup expenses that the agency promised to cover. ...

A Senate investigation is also under way, with hearings expected. ...

Undoubtedly, a pressing topic for any hearings will also be the mess in Miami-Dade County, where FEMA paid \$30 million in damage claims to 10,000 people—even though all of the hurricanes missed that area by at least 100 miles. ...

FEMA officials continue to defend these policies despite that 14 of the recipients have been indicted on federal fraud charges. ...

FEMA has much to explain. ... Hurricane victims haven't gotten many answers from FEMA. Maybe Congress will.

### Let cotton farmers iron it out The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn.

Congress has no choice other than to make significant changes in farm policy in the wake of the World Trade Organization's decision that crop payments and other federal aid to U.S. cotton farmers violate international trade agreements. ...

Producers now face an uncertain future because of a 2003 complaint filed by Brazil that made a compelling case that U.S. government support of American growers has artificially driven down world prices and made it harder for other countries to compete. ...

Because of subsidies, according to the complaint, cotton produced in the United States for about 68 cents a pound is sold on the international market for as little as 30 cents a pound. The WTO essentially agreed: U.S. government subsidies are unfair to this country's competitors around the world, who are producing cotton for much less. ...

Consequently a transition is in store for cotton growers and the Mid-South economy. It will be a bumpy ride to an uncertain destination, but there seems to be no alternative except to make the trip.

### Apathy about AIDS is fatal The Record, Hackensack, N.J.

An alarming statistic came out of a recent international AIDS conference: The HIV in-

fection rate among African-Americans has doubled. Blacks are now 10 times more likely than whites to be infected with HIV, up from five times as likely in the early 1990s. ...

The darkening face of AIDS has coincided with a rise in public apathy about the disease. You don't see as many celebrity events these days to raise money for AIDS research. ... But it probably would get more attention if HIV infected 1 out of 50 whites, not 1 out of 50 blacks. ...

To counter the public inattention, it's more crucial than ever that black leaders speak up. They must demand changes in health policy that could slow the scourge, and work harder to raise awareness in their community of the risks of infection. ...

Researchers at a recent AIDS conference said the doubling of the infection rate among blacks was due to such causes as drug addiction, poverty and inadequate health care. These aren't easy problems to fix. ...

But some actions that would help aren't so difficult — more widespread HIV testing, more drug treatment, more efforts to stem the infection among drug users. ...

### Testing waters with oil plan The Gainesville (Fla.) Sun

For all the emphasis being placed in Washington, D.C., on drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, one might think it is the single most important element in the Bush administration's proposed energy policy. Certainly, it is shaping up to be the most hotly debated energy issue in Congress. ...

But ... [if] allowing oil companies to explore the suspected oil reserves in that remote corner of the Alaskan wilderness is so central to America's future energy security, why do the oil companies appear so lukewarm about it? ...

The industry's seeming indifference may have to do with pessimistic or inconclusive evidence about just how much oil may be available for tapping in the refuge. By one government estimate, it's about 10 billion barrels of oil. At full production, that might yield one million barrels a day — about 4 percent of the nation's daily need. ...

So why the political enthusiasm for drilling when the industry doesn't seem to care? Well, one theory is that opening up the Arctic Refuge would make it politically easier to drill off the coasts of Florida and California later on. ...

So why should Floridians care about drilling in the Arctic? It's not like they want to start sinking wells off our golden beaches.





## Sickening swim

**MI** ROYAL OAK — More than 50 people were taken to a hospital after high levels of carbon monoxide were detected at a high school pool during swimming lessons, police said.

The children and adults fell ill inside Doner's High School in suburban Detroit. Doctors checked 35 people who complained of headaches, nausea and vomiting. Others left before being examined.

Five people were placed under increased pressure in the hospital's hyperbaric chamber to help them better absorb oxygen into their blood, said Dr. Frank McGeorge, director of emergency medicine at William Beaumont Hospital. They were released later in the day.

Royal Oak police Sgt. Barry Gale said tests had found high levels of carbon monoxide, which were believed to be caused by a malfunctioning furnace. The incident was still under investigation.

## Indians fight dump

**NV** LAS VEGAS — An American Indian tribe filed a federal lawsuit aimed at stopping the government from building a national nuclear waste dump on ancestral land in Nevada.

Members of the Western Shoshone National Council cited a 19th-century treaty with the federal government that they said gives the tribe the right to stop the nuclear repository from being built at Yucca Mountain.

"Mother Earth is sacred to the Shoshone and is not to be hurt by us," Western Shoshone Chief Raymond Yowell said outside court.

Nevada also is fighting the nuclear dump. It won a partial victory in a case last July that said the Energy Department's plan did not go far enough to protect people from potential radiation.

The department plans to entomb 77,000 tons of highly radioactive commercial, industrial and military waste at Yucca Mountain, 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

## Cigarette smuggling

**VA** ROANOKE — Seven Californians who smuggled \$8.9 million worth of cheap Virginia cigarettes to the West Coast are scheduled to be sentenced in June.

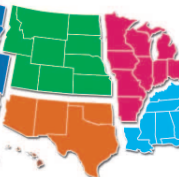
The seven pleas capped a four-year investigation involving local and federal officials, as well as agents from both states.

U.S. Attorney John Brownlee said leaders of the smuggling operation paid about \$8.9 million for more than 108 million cigarettes and had their accomplices truck them to California, where they were resold. The cigarettes had a retail value of more than \$18.5 million.

The scheme allowed the men to escape payment of more than \$4.7 million in California cigarette taxes. When the smuggling started, Virginia was taxing cigarettes at 2.5 cents a pack while California was assessing strokes at 87 cents a pack, said Sharon Burnham, an assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted the case.

## Man guilty in slashing

**PA** ALLENTOWN — A man accused of slashing a woman's throat and stabbing her after the two used drugs at a motel was convicted of attempted homicide.



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Michael Leon Haley Sr., 48, of Allentown, was also found guilty of aggravated assault, reckless endangerment, making terroristic threats, and of theft for stealing a car after the incident.

Lisa Krepich, 33, said she and Haley were using drugs in the Lehigh Motor Inn in Upper Macungie Township on April 16 when he sliced her throat from ear to ear and repeatedly stabbed her. She said she ran from the room and collapsed.

Krepich said she had met Haley just hours earlier and had taken him to a house to get drugs before going with him to the motel.

## Assisted suicide botched

**OR** PORTLAND — A terminally ill cancer patient who tried to end his life with drugs prescribed under Oregon's assisted-suicide law awoke three days later, alert and talkative, his wife said.

David Prueitt, who had lung cancer, took what was believed to be a fatal dose of a barbiturate prescribed by his doctor in January.

He fell into a coma within minutes, but woke up three days later, said his wife, Lynda Romig Prueitt.

Prueitt's wife told The Oregonian newspaper that he asked, "Why am I not dead?"

Prueitt, 42, lived for two more weeks before dying of natural causes at his Estacada home.

The state Department of Human Services will turn the case over to



## Cowboy cleanup

Ralph Reinhardt of Voecker Construction does a last-minute cleanup on the face of a huge cowboy sign on the grounds of the Travis County Expo Center in Austin, Texas.

the Board of Medical Examiners or state Board of Pharmacy to determine if the procedure or drugs were faulty, said Dr. Katrina Hedberg, assistant state epidemiologist.

## Parties feuding

**MT** HELENA — Leading Republicans in the Legislature fumed after meeting with Democratic Gov. Brian Schweitzer, who criticized them for opposing some of his key legislation, then left without giving them a chance to speak. House Republican Leader Roy Brown said he and others went to the governor's office for "a legitimate discussion about issues" and ended up listening to "a show." Schweitzer said later he thought he gave Republicans opportunity to comment.

## Bad morning wake-up

**FL** MIAMI — Instead of an early-bird customer, a cafeteria worker discovered a live grenade on a counter where people typically order coffee and doughnuts.

The Opportunity Cafeteria had just opened about 6:30 a.m. when the unidentified worker found the grenade on one corner of the counter. Police officers were summoned and determined that the grenade was active, with its pin still in place.

The department's bomb squad took the grenade to a secure location and detonated it, according to a statement from the police department. No one was injured and there was no damage to any structures.

Investigators were trying Tuesday to determine how the grenade got there. No other devices were found at the cafeteria.

Police did not immediately return a call seeking additional information.

## Heartland losing kids

**ND** BISMARCK — Tony Niemman is going to miss the shrieks and laughter coming from the school playground.

Starting this fall, the 25 elementary-age children will go somewhere else to learn their ABCs. There just aren't enough of them to keep the school open.

The town of Calvin, where Niemman is mayor, exemplifies what is happening all across North Dakota: Young adults and young families with children are moving away to escape the harsh farm economy.

New census figures show North Dakota is losing more children than any other state.

"What we're seeing is a tremendous loss of youth," said Richard Rathge, director of the State Data Center. "Young adults and young families are leaving and taking their children with them."

From 2000 to 2004, North Dakota's population of children ages 5 to 17 dropped about 14 percent and the number of newborns dropped about 8 percent, the Census Bureau said in a report being released Thursday. The number of newborns in one year alone, 2003 to 2004, dropped 15 percent — and the highest percentage in the nation.

But Rathge said North Dakota's birth rate has declined nearly every year since 1982. Fargo, the state's largest city, has seen a 1.5 percent growth in young people over the past few years, but most of them are not starting families, he said.



## A berry good cause

Jimmy Webb, a graduate student majoring in horticulture at the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences in Gainesville, Fla., displays strawberries that are being sold to raise funds for the institute's student organization. The berries were donated to the student group by growers in Plant City, Fla.



## Seeking seashells and sun

Nackie Karcher hunts for seashells on Miami Beach, Fla., near 12th Street after a cold front brought rain and wind to the area.



## You quack me up!

Four-year-olds, from left, Isabela Martinez-Vazquez, Chloe Craft, and Riley Buchanan from the St. John's Child Development Center in Anderson, S.C., watch a duckling waddle around a dish of food. The children had a difficult time naming the waddling duck, which explains its new name: Sallymadelinequackquack.





**Swinging in Las Vegas** Employees and members of the media try out "Insanity," a new ride that dangles riders 1,149 feet over the Las Vegas Boulevard strip over the side of the Stratosphere Tower in Las Vegas.



**Taking his licks** A squirrel in a tree on Donham Plaza in Middletown, Ohio, cleans up the leftover contents of a plastic spoon.



**Spring attraction** Cliff Buza walks among poppies along Zionsville Road in El Paso, Texas. The Mexican gold poppies that bloom on the lower slopes of the Franklin Mountains in the northeast part of the city draw a large number of visitors.

## TV contract questioned

**NV** CARSON CITY — A state senator is defending her \$300,000-a-month contract to consult with a television station on news content, including issues in the Legislature.

Sen. Barbara Cegavske, R-Las Vegas, said during a joint budget committee hearing that she works for Sunbelt Communications, which owns KVBC of Las Vegas. She said she has worked with the station about a year and helps with stories about education, health care and, sometimes, the Nevada Legislature.

"I'm a consultant," she told the Las Vegas Sun. "They'll call me about different issues, ask me questions about health or education issues."

Al Tompkins, a television consultant and faculty member at the Poynter Institute, a journalism think tank, said he had never heard of a legislator contracting with a news outlet while in office.

"Can you imagine a newspaper employing a member of Congress?" he asked.

Cegavske said she disclosed the relationship several times during interim finance committee hearings before the legislative session, and ran the idea past her own attorney.

## Thieves take cane, purse

**NY** BREWSTER — A 42-year-old woman and her two sons were arrested, accused of robbing an elderly woman of her purse and cane in the parking lot of a supermarket, State Police said.

Susan Blaney, Stephen Blaney, 22, and Michael Blaney, 23, drove up to woman and one son stole her cane and purse as she was making her way to her car, Investigator Paul Hasselmann said.

The Blaneys struck a parked car and tried to run down a pedestrian as they fled, authorities said. Their vehicle was spotted later in Kent and they were arrested.

The Blaneys were each charged with second-degree robbery and two counts each of first-degree reckless endangerment, police said.

## Doubling up on blood

**PA** HOWARD — A blood drive in Centre County used new technology to boost blood supply as the number of blood donors nationally continues to decline.

The new "double red cell" collection requires donors to give twice as much blood. A device separates red blood cells, plasma and platelets — keeping only the blood cells and sending the plasma and platelets back into the donor.

The result: Two pints of red blood cells, double that of a traditional blood draw. The procedure will help increase the stockpile of available blood when blood reserves are critically low, said Steve Campbell of the Red Cross.

## Rampage ends in death

**TX** HOUSTON — A man who wounded two people and attempted three carjackings was shot and killed by police after taking a hostage and shooting at that man, Houston police said.

It began when the gunman was caught burglarizing an apartment, police said. A maintenance man who confronted him was shot in the side, said police.

The gunman then tried to take a man's car at a red light. The driver grabbed his keys and abandoned the truck, leaving the gunman.

The gunman then ran into Action Electronics where he tried to carjack the owner, police said. The owner was shot in the leg.

The gunman ran into a neighborhood, where he found a man in a truck. The gunman took that man hostage, police said. Ignoring commands to drop his weapon, the gunman began shooting at his hostage, police said. The gunman was then shot and killed by the officer.

## Woman killed by dogs

**VA** PARTLOW — An 83-year-old woman was attacked in her yard by a pack of pit bulls and died of her injuries en route to the hospital, police said.

One dog was killed by sheriff's deputies, one was captured and the third remained on the loose after the attack on Dorothy Sullivan, who was found by her daughter.

Investigators believe the dogs have two owners, and one has been located. While no charges have been filed, the owners could possibly be accused of involuntary manslaughter, he said.

## Tour boats seized

**HA** HONOLULU — Two tour boats owned by Dream Cruises were seized by the U.S. Marshals Service because the company was in default of a \$1.4 million mortgage on the vessels, according to officials and court documents.

The American Dream in Kewalo Basin and its sister ship, the Kona Dream in Kona, won't be allowed to operate until court proceedings are completed, a spokesman for the service said.

Dream Cruises President Michael Watson acknowledged being a couple months late on payments, but said he was in discussions with the lender for a new payment plan.

## Conviction overturned

**CA** SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court tossed out the conviction of a death row inmate because prosecutors knowingly lied about a deal that had been struck with a key witness in the case.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals cleared the way for a new trial for Blufford Hayes Jr., who was convicted in 1981 of murdering a Stockton hotel manager and sentenced to death for first-degree murder, burglary and robbery.

The key witness, A.J. James, said Hayes confided to him shortly after the murder that he had "offed" Vinod "Pete" Patel. James also helped Hayes steal several cartons of cigarettes from the hotel lobby.

James was the only witness who could corroborate the burglary charge — adding the "special circumstances" needed to make it a death penalty case.

Court papers show the prosecutor negotiated a deal with James' attorney to grant him immunity in the murder and to drop all other pending felony charges.

The two also agreed to hide the deal from the judge and jury — and from James as well, so he did not perjure himself on the witness stand if asked whether he'd been given any special treatment in exchange for his testimony.

Stories and photos from wire services

## YOUR MONEY

# Preparing pocketbooks for retirement

## Before calling it quits, troops should consider financial hit

BY RICK EMERT

Stars and Stripes

While retiring from the military means no more boot shining or deployments downrange, it does not necessarily mean that it's time to get a condo in Florida and sit on the beach all day.

Servicemen — enlisted and officers — will draw roughly half of their base pay when they retire, meaning they have many things to consider before deciding to hang up the uniform. Have they lined up a job in the civilian sector? Should they buy a home? Have they saved enough money?

A sergeant first class with 20 years' service would see his monthly pay change from \$3,458.70 to \$1,729.35 once he retires. For a staff sergeant, the pay would drop from \$2,908.20 to \$1,454.10.

That's not enough to really retire, said Staff Sgt. Lawrence Primus, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery in Bamberg, Germany, who is planning to retire after his son graduates high school in June.

"It would be impossible to stop working," he said. "You figure your pay gets cut in half. All of a sudden, I'll be making \$1,500 a month. We can't live on that."

In addition to the base pay, servicemen also get a cost-of-living allowance, extra

money for meals and a housing allowance if they live off post.

When a servicemember retires, all of these extras go away, said Sylvester Kimbrough, a military pay technician who focuses on retirement pay at Warner Barracks in Bamberg.

Primus and one of his co-workers who is also retiring, Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Toney, said they are hoping to find a job where the work and pay are similar to their status in the Army.

"That's a scary part of retiring, what am I going to do next?" asked Toney, who plans to retire in November. "I know McDonald's and Wal-Mart are always hiring, but I want a job where the position and pay are comparable to my position in the Army."

To prepare for the transition to the civilian sector, both soldiers said they have been putting away money for years. Primus said he has spent the past several years preparing, and he bought a house near Fort Bragg, N.C., a few years ago. Toney said he has saved about \$10,000.

"The Army pays for most of the moving and the lodging when you relocate after retiring, but there are going to be expenses no matter what," Toney said. "I wanted to make sure we would have that covered. If we

## Separation can be 'a scary time'

Retiring soldiers may find the jump from the Army world to the civilian business sector a little daunting.

"It is a scary time for someone who has spent all of his adult life in the military," said Mary Kaldesleisch, job assistance counselor for the Army Career and Alumni Program in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The program can help with writing a résumé, preparing for job interviews and even tracking down jobs, Kaldesleisch said.

"We try to help them take a look inward and see how they are going to approach a nonmilitary lifestyle," she said. "They have to demilitarize themselves and their résumés."

Many soldiers "don't think they have any skills, but the skills they possess from being in the military are really sought after by employers," she said.

That's not to say that prospective employers are waiting for newly retired soldiers just outside the gate, she warned.

"On average, it takes about six to nine months to find a job," Kaldesleisch said. "Retiring soldiers can start coming to ACAP two years before they retire. It's important to get the word out to commanders to let the soldiers start coming here as soon as possible. The thought of a soldier only getting a couple of months to find a job scares me."

Not to mention that the average retiring soldier

is about 40. But Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Toney, of the 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery in Bamberg, Germany, said the age factor doesn't concern him.

"I don't think of it as being older than the competition, but being more experienced," Toney said. "I'm a mechanic. I've been looking around and there are a lot of opportunities out there for me."

But Toney, who is planning to retire in November, said he can't try to lock down a job until he has retirement orders with a definite date of when he would be available to start work.

That, too, can be difficult with the always-looming threat of stop loss, which prevents servicemen from leaving the service when their time is up. Toney said he was planning to retire late last year when his plans were changed because of stop loss.

"I didn't think it was right," said Staff Sgt. Lawrence Primus, who is planning to retire in June. "When a soldier gets to that point, it makes him change his whole plans. We arranged for the tenants to be out of our house on a certain date, so we've had to suck up that cost for a year."

"You get yourself ready and get your family ready, and then the Army prevents you from going through with it," Toney said. "It can be really stressful."

—Rick Emert



Primus



Toney

have some of that money left over, that's great."

There are many ways to save, but the key is to start early, said Andria Nichols, financial readiness planner with Army Community Service in Bamberg. She recommends that soldiers start saving at least five years before retirement.

"There are so many ways to save money," Nichols said. "The first thing is to track your expenditures. I think a lot of people would be surprised at how much money they spend in a day or

week. Buying lunch every day can be very expensive. If you pack a lunch for work, put that money you would have spent into savings. Try to put 10 percent of your pay into savings."

Hanging up the uniform doesn't come without stress, Nichols said.

"So much hits all at once, you have to worry about life insurance, buying a home and your pay being cut in half," Nichols said. "There is so much more to consider, things you may not have had to pay in the Army, like

utility bills. The reality of it all can be overwhelming."

While retirement will be an extreme life change, Toney said he's ready.

"My career has taken me to the ultimate level," he said. "I've led soldiers into battle in the Persian Gulf and in (Operation Iraqi Freedom)."

"I've accomplished what I wanted to accomplish in my military career. Now I'm ready to move on to the civilian world."

E-mail Rick Emert at: [emert@mail.strips.osd.mil](mailto:emert@mail.strips.osd.mil)

## Study: Personal finance not part of most states' school curricula

BY BEN FELLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More states are requiring students to learn about managing money, but personal finance remains a fringe topic in schools and a major source of federal concern.

Seven states mandate that students take a course about basic finances to graduate high school, according to 2004 survey results released Thursday by the private National Council on Economic Education. That's up from 2002, when just four states required such courses.

In the standards they set for schools, most states say they want money matters to be taught — 38 states include the ideas of saving, investing, risk management and other finance themes in the standards or guidelines, an increase from 31 states two years earlier. But the survey found many states don't enforce the standards, let alone require entire courses.

"There is more good economic and financial education being offered in schools than ever," said Robert Duvall, president of the national council, which released its findings during an economic literacy summit. "But as a subject area, it continues to be

marginalized as an add-on in an already crowded curriculum. We need to keep pushing to make it part of the core."

Poor understanding of personal finance can cause more than a sloppy checkbook. As young people rack up credit debt or fail to save money, they can later find themselves with bankruptcies, home foreclosures and financial stresses that divide families, experts say.

The problem of bad money management is drawing more national attention as a public education issue. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has prodded schools to help teach kids financial literacy so they are not saddled by poor financial decisions as adults.

The Financial Literacy and Education Commission, which represents 20 federal agencies and commissions, is working on ways to help people navigate complex money decisions.

In a national survey last year, only 52 percent of high school seniors answered correctly questions about personal finance and economics. The students struggled, for example, with questions on income tax, stocks and bonds, credit card liability and retirement plans.

SEE MONEY ON PAGE 27



Math teacher Curt Hallaway instructs ninth-graders Crystal Haberstroff, left, and Jessica Plummer at Border Central School in Calvin, N.D., on Feb. 3. Like all but seven states, North Dakota does not require students to take a personal finance course to graduate high school.

## YOUR MONEY

## Low loan rates going fast

Q: I have about \$14,000 in student loans, all with variable interest rates that are now about 4 percent. I haven't been paying any of them because I've been in school, but I recently became a part-time student and I received a notice from the lender that I will have to start making payments. As a single mother earning less than \$20,000 a year, I barely make enough to raise two children, much less make big payments. Any pointers that you could provide?

A: You'll want to act fast to lock in the low interest rate you currently enjoy. The loan on federal student loans is expected to jump July 1, perhaps by 2 percentage points. That could greatly increase your interest costs over the life of these loans.

Right now, you can lock in a payment of about \$142 a month. After the rates climb, your payment could be \$155. Over the 10-year course of the loan, the difference could cost you about \$1,600.

In addition, Congress is talking about eliminating the option of fixed-rate consolidation loans. In the future, all student loans may well be variable, and that could expose borrowers to big swings in their payments.

Those who act by July 1, however, will still be able to enjoy the benefit of a low-cost, fixed-rate consolidation loan. Consolidating now could help you avoid the expected stampede as borrowers rush to take advantage of this last window of opportunity.

Once you've locked in your rate, you can explore other options. Lenders offer a variety of payment

choices, including plans that are based on your income and others that allow you to defer payments for as long as three years, based on economic hardship. For more information, you can contact the Department of Education ([www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)).

Q: You recently wrote that the maximum that could be contributed to an IRA was \$4,000. I thought the limit was \$3,000, or \$3,500 if you are 50 or older. When did the limit change?

A: On Jan. 1. The contribution limit for people under 50 rose to \$4,000 this year; people 50 and older may make an additional "catch-up" contribution of \$500, for a total of \$4,500.

The \$4,000 limit is scheduled to remain in effect until 2008, when it will rise to \$5,000 annually. The catch-up amount, however, will rise to \$1,000 next year. That means in 2006 and 2007, people 50 and older will be able to contribute a total of \$5,000 a year.

When the regular limit rises again in 2008, people under 50 will be able to contribute a maximum of \$5,000, while those 50 and older can contribute \$6,000 annually.

You have until April 15 by the way, to make an IRA contribution for the previous tax year. But you can contribute only the previous year's limit. So if you're funding a 2004 IRA, you're limited to \$3,000 (or \$3,500 if you're 50 or older).

Liz Pulliam Weston is the author of "Your Credit Score: How to Fix, Improve and Protect the Credit Number That Shapes Your Financial Future." Questions for Money Talk can be submitted to her at 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd., No. 238, Studio City, CA 91604, or at [www.lizweston.com](http://www.lizweston.com). She regrets that she cannot respond personally to queries.

## Money Talk



Liz Pulliam Weston

## THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES				
SP-week	High	Low	Down	Index
10,846.46	7,916.40	7,916.40	Down	Jones Industrials
3,889.97	2,743.46	2,743.46	Down	Jones Transportation
363.82	259.08	259.08	Down	Jones Utilities
1,531.12	1,054.74	1,054.74	Down	NYSX Dividend
1,539.14	1,054.74	1,054.74	Down	Amex Index
2,729.12	1,966.72	1,966.72	Down	S&P 500
683.36	548.29	548.29	Down	S&P MidCap
515.90	400.00	400.00	Down	Russell 2000
12,188.93	10,268.52	10,268.52	Down	DJ Wilshire 5000

NYSE				
Most Active (\$1 or more)	Volume	Vol	Vol	Vol
Apple	1,019,719	48,171	48,171	48,171
Microsoft	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Amazon	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Google	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Facebook	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Twitter	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
LinkedIn	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
MySpace	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
YouTube	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Netflix	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Spotify	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
SoundCloud	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Bandcamp	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
SoundCloud	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400
Bandcamp	1,196,262	14,400	14,400	14,400

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS				
Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg
Boeing	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Airbus	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
General Dynamics	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Lockheed Martin	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Northrop Grumman	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Raytheon	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Boeing	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Airbus	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
General Dynamics	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Lockheed Martin	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Northrop Grumman	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Raytheon	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Boeing	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Airbus	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
General Dynamics	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Lockheed Martin	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Northrop Grumman	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Raytheon	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS				
Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1
Fidelity Investor Growth	1.07	17.13	14.4	-0.1

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (March 11)	102.90
South Korean won (March 11)	986.00
Euro (March 11)	31.372
British pound (March 11)	31.372
British pound (March 11)	31.372
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
British pound (March 11)	1.5224
Canada (Dollar)	1.2031
Denmark (Krone)	5.465
Euro (Pound)	5.465
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7891
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7891
Iceland (Krona)	59.225
Japan (Yen)	102.90
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2919
Norway (Krone)	6.5847
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7569
Singapore (Dollar)	1.0010
Switzerland (Franc)	1.532
Thailand (Baht)	1.4045
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4045
United States (Dollar)	1.0010
United States (Dollar)	1.0010
United States (Dollar)	1.0010
United States (Dollar)	1.0010
United States (Dollar)	1.0010
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United States (Dollar)	1.0010
United States (Dollar)	1.0010
United States (Dollar)	1.0010

## PRECIOUS METALS

New York Mercile close	
Gold	\$422.80
Silver	\$7.492
INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.50
3-month Treasury bill	2.74
30-year bond	4.76
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America	

## Money: Few schools teaching finance

## MONEY, FROM PAGE 26

The new report says that the seven states requiring students to take a personal finance course are Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, New York and Utah.

Relying on colleges to teach students about money is not a good approach, Duvall said, as many kids don't get that far, and college courses are more about theory than daily life.

Duvall's council wants all states to require an economics course, including personal finance. A total of 15 states require an economics course this year, up from 14 two years ago.

States also can reinforce economic themes in other courses, such as a math class on compound interest or a history class on the Boston Tea Party and taxation, Duvall said.

William Walstad, director of the National Center for Re-

search in Economic Education, said states should unite various lessons in a well-defined sequence of courses — just as they do with math and science. He said advocates need to lobby with more urgency and unity.

"Time can hurt us if we don't keep pressing the case," Walstad said.

The number of states that included personal finance in their curriculum standards dropped from 40 to 31 between 2000 and 2002 before rebounding in the new survey.

Duvall said that was a reaction by states to No Child Left Behind, the 2001 federal education law that put a greater emphasis on state math and reading progress.

"We've had a couple of years to take that in stride and figure out how to not only put a rightful emphasis on language arts and mathematics, but also financial literacy," he said.

Cents and Sensibility  
Money tip of the day

## Health insurance sites

Knight Ridder News Service

As health care costs rise, access to affordable health insurance coverage has become a growing problem for many Americans. Fortunately, though, there is a bit of free and useful information available on the Web that can help consumers sort out health insurance option and compare plan prices.

■ **America's Health Insurance Plans.** [www.ahip.org](http://www.ahip.org). Select "Consumer Information" to access information about long-term care insurance, managed care and health insurance.

■ **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.** [www.ahrq.gov/consumer/insuranc.htm](http://www.ahrq.gov/consumer/insuranc.htm). Good resource for learning about health insurance basics and choosing the right plan.

■ **Federal Citizen Information Center.** [www.consumeraction.gov/caw\\_insurance\\_health.shtml](http://www.consumeraction.gov/caw_insurance_health.shtml). Provides overview of health insurance options and long-term care insurance.

■ **eHealthInsurance.com.** [www.ehealthinsurance.com/eh/index.html](http://www.ehealthinsurance.com/eh/index.html). Compare individual, family and small business insurance plans.

■ **InsWeb.** [www.insweb.com](http://www.insweb.com). Select "Health" to begin search for the best insurance quotes in your area.

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# Sunday Horoscope

Mars in Capricorn sends aggressive energy into relationships.

Peaceful relationships that were slipping into a boring groove are invigorated. But relationships that were already agitated could reach an unpleasant level of intensity. This is no time to be stubborn, but tell that to the Taurus mool! Utilize deep breathing to keep your cool.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

**March 13.** Your ever-evolving life is an inspiration to others. Put your message out there. The universe only knows to give to you if you are grateful for what you've received. Loving gestures are reciprocated, bringing comfort and healing. By June, you're ready for an adventure. Sagittarius and Capricorn are ideal partners for travel, business and love.

## ARIES (March 21-April 19).

There are people who shine like beacons in your life. And then there are those who blend into the scenery, surprising you when they finally reach out — you almost forgot you knew them. Honor those people now.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

Your sign rules the throat, and today, your verbal requests have even more weight than usual. You'll be surprised what mountains you can move using only the magic of your small stuff.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

As much as you enjoy an easy road, friendships are not without occasional strife. When you presume the other person is innocent (even though this seems highly unlikely to you now), a new insight leaps to the fore.

## CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You'll assemble a team for your special project — or at least you should. To take on the whole thing solo is nothing short of unnecessary martyrdom. Strongly consider other water signs (Scorpio and Pisces).

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

Nothing compares to the sweetness of family connections. You're absolute-

ly happiest when you're giving to your next of kin. Hint: The best you can give is a listening ear. Turn off the distractions.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** So far, your reputation in a certain social group is perfectly preserved.

The stakes are raised, though, and it takes more to stay in good graces. Show your social savvy by thinking ahead.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

When the matricarch of your family is happy, everyone is happy. If said matricarch is joy, now's the time to spoil yourself silly. If not, an affectionate display aimed at "mama" will be uplifting to all.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

Your social set represents a patchwork of different styles, and you can learn something from each contributing person. So instead of worrying about fitting in, play up the differences between you and those around you.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

Exercise caution — even though it's not your thing. Let the deal go down without you if necessary. When you're not in a hurry, and you're willing to be thoughtful, you save time, money and energy.

## PICAPICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Hiding your skills is futile. The experts agree that you're one of them! This means you'll be asked to help, which is really more of a pleasure than an obligation. The more generous you are, the happier you'll be.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Risk being unpopular. Liking something different from what the rest like, acting on your own initiative and adopting the lonely cause are all favored activities. You're a true independent.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

The music of the spheres is a grand orchestra, but the melody is a simple one, heard in the smallest details of nature — a leaf, the buzz of a bee, the lapping tide. Likewise, you communicate to the world in big and small ways.

Creators Syndicate

# Names carry sounds of home

On a recent trip through New England, I noticed that many place names share certain elements, such as "ham" in "East-ham" and "Chatham," "mouth" in "Plymouth" and "Falmouth," and "wich" in "Greenwich." Any light you can shed on the origins and meanings of these names would be appreciated.

As you probably realize, many of the places in New England were named by the first English settlers who crossed the Atlantic. To make the unfamiliar sounds of their "new England" seem less foreign, the names they chose were often the names of familiar

places they had left behind.

The British places whose namesakes you mention acquired the names hundreds of years ago, when the English language was still in its earliest formative stages. As the language evolved around them, the place names remained essentially unchanged.

As a result, names whose meanings would have been perfectly intelligible and logical to those who chose them now require a little investigation for us to understand.

This column was prepared by the Editors of Merriam-Webster's Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Readers may send questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 21, Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

# blames messenger of grandson's bad news

**Dear Abby:** My nephew was recently arrested. It's the fourth time I know of that he's been arrested for various things — there may have been more.

This time, bond was set at \$500. He asked his parents for the money.

They refused because they hoped the time he spent in jail would teach him a lesson. Next, he called his grandparents (my parents). He told them he was in jail because his girlfriend (with whom he has had two kids, 6 years old and 8 months old) had accused him of aggravated assault.

They dislike her, so they believed him. I learned the real reason for his arrest when I called the jail. It wasn't assault; it was two counts of driving without a license, and two counts of failing to appear in court. When I approached my mother about this, she got mad at me, and now she's not speaking to me. Was I right to let her know her grandson was trying to use her again, or do I owe her an apology?

—Heartbroken In Virginia

**Dear Heartbroken:** There's a saying in ancient times that was dangerous to use Caesar's bad news, because it was his

habit to kill the messenger. Your mother could not have been thrilled to hear what you had to say, so instead of aiming her anger where it belonged — at her grandson — she's taking it out on you. You don't owe your mother an apology; she owes you one.

## Dear Abby



**Dear Abby:** I have been married for 18 years and have two children. I come from a humble background. My husband's family is very well-to-do. I try to be as nice to them as I can, but his mother, sister and brother treat us like we don't exist.

If we are invited for a family get-together, they don't speak to either of us. If they have something to communicate, they talk around us.

How should I deal with this? They act as if we are not their family. It breaks my heart to see them be mean to my children. They seem to think that money is everything.

I think my husband's mother and sister may be the problem. I can't continue to let them walk all over me.

Please give me some insight. I have no one to talk to.

—On The Outside In Independence, Kan.

# Remain neutral when dealing in aftermath of sister's divorce

**Dear Annie:** I have a question about post-divorce relationships. My sister, "Karen," married my best friend, "Roy," but they divorced two years ago.

I have since tried to mend my relationship with Roy, but he has made no attempt to return my calls or acknowledge me, despite several efforts to reach out to him.

I come from a large family, and my wife and I were the first to know the divorce was coming. Both Roy and Karen confided in us for nearly a year before their problems became common knowledge. For a long time, I deeply resented Roy for putting my sister through this misery. They made attempts at counseling before divorcing, but I think Roy was only putting up a front, and never really expected any reconciliation to occur.

Now I have a second sister who also is divorcing, and I don't want to make the same mistake twice. Is there something I should do to mend fences with Roy, or should I just forget it?

—Troubled In Toronto

Dear Troubled: During a

relative or friend's divorce, it is best to remain as neutral as possible, offering support and encouragement.

Taking sides can only lead to trouble.

It's very likely Roy is aware that you blame him for the split, and this would not make him feel comfortable renewing the friendship. He also may carry some guilt about the circumstances of the divorce, and becoming chummy again could bring back unsettling memories. If you want to mend fences, send an e-mail or leave a phone message saying you'd like to be friends again when he's ready. Then let him make the next move.

## Annie's Mailbox



**Dear Sister:** Not everyone is a good housekeeper, and you cannot force Lauren to clean up if she isn't interested. If you think her slovenliness may indicate that she is depressed about her recent diagnosis, mention that possibility, and see if she is receptive to counseling. Meanwhile, please stay as close as you can, in case she turns to you for help.

—Love My Sister

**Dear Sister:** Not everyone is a good housekeeper, and you cannot force Lauren to clean up if she isn't interested. If you think her slovenliness may indicate that she is depressed about her recent diagnosis, mention that possibility, and see if she is receptive to counseling. Meanwhile, please stay as close as you can, in case she turns to you for help.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy M. Bell and Mary Sue, long-time editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@att.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@att.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5717 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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## RELIGION

# Leaving the Saints' over alleged sex abuse

## Mormon church and author's siblings deny actions detailed in woman's memoir

BY MARK THIESSEN  
The Associated Press

### SALT LAKE CITY

A new memoir detailing alleged child sexual abuse in a prominent Mormon home is being discredited by both the church and the author's siblings.

It's one thing for any Mormon woman to say in public that she had been sexually abused, but it was quite another for Martha Beck, whose roots with the church date back to the beginning: Her great-great-grandfather was the personal dentist for Joseph Smith, founder of what is now the nation's fifth-largest denomination.

The author of the best seller "Expecting Adam," the 42-year-old Beck also is the daughter of the late Brigham Young University professor emeritus of ancient scripture, Hugh Nibley. In his role as a Mormon apologist, he was one of the church's leading authorities and chief defenders against intellectual attacks. His



Dr. Martha Beck

prolific writings now number 15 volumes of collected works, and will likely reach 20 volumes.

Beck chronicles her difficult and dramatic break from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, her spiritual quest

and details confrontations she had with her father over the alleged abuse, in "Leaving the Saints: How I Lost the Mormons and Found My Faith."

The majority of the book details her falling out with the Mormon faith and criticizes church authorities for stifling dissent and independent thought among Mormon scholars who might not adhere to church orthodoxy.

"Not since I'd studied Chinese, using textbooks written by the Communists, had I run into more careful censoring, more suspicious questions, more timid conversations between people who hoped they might actually be true friends," she writes.

But the book is drawing attention mostly because of the claims Beck makes about her father.

Nibley died at age 94 on Feb. 24, but Beck and other family members said he adamantly denied the allegations of sexual abuse and vaginal scarring that Beck claims she endured.

She began recovering the mem-

ories, she says, in 1990, two days after a near-death experience during surgery to repair a spontaneous tear that had opened inside scarring in her vagina.

While she was anesthetized during surgery, she said she encountered a "Being of Light."

Two days later, she said she had her first remembrance of the alleged abuse: She says she remembers being stretched out and legs spread like a frog on a dissecting table. "My father is doing something that feels as though it's ripping me in two," she writes in the book.

"Everything Martha has said is absolutely false," she quotes her father as saying. "To think she would even claim such a thing is shocking. I would never defile my own child."

Her seven siblings discounted the book in a written statement last month.

"Martha's most egregious accusation — that our father molested her over several years and that the family covered up the crime — is not true. While salacious ac-

cusations sell books, the reader should know that in this case it simply did not happen."

"These allegations dishonor real abuse survivors who lose credibility and suffer increased anguish when false accusations are exposed," the family statement says.

"Recovered memory" refers to instances in which psychologists say the memory of a painful experience is suppressed in an effort to ease discomfort associated with that experience, only to resurface years later.

The Mormon church also has denounced the book as "seriously flawed" in the way it depicts the church, its members and teachings.

"Fair-minded readers will find it at best unconvincing, at worst mean-spirited and at times absurd," said church spokesman Dale Brinkman.

Beck said the abuse she remembered wasn't about lust. "It wasn't even about sex, except as a form of torture or even symbolic death," Beck wrote. "No, it was all about religion."

## For whom the bells toll

### Definitely not for Florida monastery's neighbors

BY TERRY ROEN  
The Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel

GLENWOOD, Fla. — June Kasparek works the graveyard shift and wakes every morning to the loud clanging of bells.

The nurse goes to bed at 6 a.m. after working a 12-hour shift at Florida Hospital DeLand. The tolling begins two hours later.

June and Ross Kasparek, who live across the street from the Mother of Good Shepherd Monastery, said the bells toll anywhere from 30 to 150 times for up to seven minutes several times a day.

"Nobody needs to ring their bells that long. Anyone could get the message after five dings. It's obnoxious," said Ross Kasparek, 69.

The Kaspareks and several of their neighbors complain the bells have ruined their quiet country lifestyle in this unincorporated community west of DeLand. Church bells are exempt from the county's noise ordinance.

Some people also are angry that the county allowed the monastery to be located in a residential neighborhood.

The Mother of Good Shepherd monastery is home to three monks, including Father Seamus, who says they have the right to ring their bells whenever they please. He attributes the complaints to "a few cranky neighbors" and said most of the people who live around them welcome the monastery.

"When you try to do God's work there are always problems," said Father Seamus, an ordained priest who, like the other monks at the monastery, does not use his last name. "There's a war going on and people are dying of cancer. Why are bells such a problem?"

Father Seamus, the superior of the monastery, said the bells are a call to prayer and an important part of their monastic routine. The monks lead a contem-

plative life of prayer and meditation, chanting prayers seven times a day beginning at 4 a.m.

Mounted on metal frames, the two bells — the largest is 4,000 pounds — are rung with pulleys four to five times a day. Father Seamus said. After some neighbors complained about the noise, the monks used a crane to move the bells away from neighboring homes.

In another concession to the neighborhood, the bells are not rung until 8 a.m. to announce daily Mass and 9 a.m. for Sunday Mass, Father Seamus said.

Katrina Starling, who lives nearby, said the bells are "very tranquil" and remind her to take a moment of silence to pray.

Frank Burns, who lives behind the monastery, said the bells are "reminiscent of the old days."

The controversy started in January 2004 when the monks moved their monastery from Peaks Island, Maine, to Mercers Ferry Road. They rented the 11-acre tract for four months until they bought the property and a three-bedroom cinder block home in April for \$350,000, according to Volusia property records.

Roger Purcell, who lives behind the monastery on Sunset Court, said he called the monastery and asked that they ring the bells less often or dampen the sound since the noise wakes him in the morning.

"The guy was cocky on the phone and told me they can ring the bells whenever they want," said Purcell, 57.

The monks said they are not willing to tone down the rings or ring the bells less often. They said they have already tried to be good neighbors and vow to stay. They plan to expand and build a new chapel, monastery and retreat house.

"The bells are in compliance and we've already compromised by ringing the bells later," Father Seamus said.



ORLANDO SENTINEL/RET

Brother Joachim is one of three Augustinian monks at Mother of the Good Shepherd Monastery in Glenwood, Fla. These monks maintain a contemplative lifestyle on an 11-acre farm. Brother Joachim uses ropes to ring the bells.

## Churches win big in grab for mini radio

BY JOE GAROFOLI  
San Francisco Chronicle

Community activists cheered when the federal government began offering licenses for low-power radio stations five years ago. But now, some are wondering what happened to what they envisioned as an end-around to big media domination of the airwaves.

After years of fighting legal battles for left-leaning "pirate" broadcasters, advocates pictured a sea of under-100-watt stations where low-income folks and communities of color — "new voices" in government parlance — could grab a tiny slice of a radio dial now dominated by conglomerates.

But something unexpected happened on the way to the dial diversity the left thought it was getting: Low-power frequencies have been gobbled up by Christian organizations. Church groups make up roughly half the 344 applicants licensed by the Federal Communications Commission for stations with a broadcasting range of about five miles.

And with precious few vacant frequencies available in big cities, most of the low-power stations have popped up in far-flung suburbs and small towns — far from the greatest concentration of communities of color.



<b>Autos for Sale</b>	
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## AM WEEKLY RADIO

## JAPAN — KANTO

**EAGLE 810**  
**Morning (Sun)**  
 7:55 Japanese Programming  
 9:00 Eagle 810 Sunday Brunch (Smooth Jazz)  
**Afternoon**  
 12:50 American Country Countdown  
 4:00 A Prairie Home Companion  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Focus on the Family  
 6:30 Travel Radio  
 7:00 Dr. Laura  
 8:00 Beale Street Caravan  
 9:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)  
 10:00 Pure Gold (Alternative/Mod)  
 2:00 Sports Overnight America  
 3:00 NPR Talk of the Nation Live (Tue-Fri)  
 4:00 NPR on the Media (Mon)  
 5:00 NPR Living on Earth (Mon)  
**Morning (Mon-Fri)**  
 6:00 Eagle 810 Morning Show (Contemporary)  
 7:00 Pacific Report  
 7:27 Paul Harvey News and Commentary  
 7:30 Pacific Report  
 7:44 Paul Harvey Rest of the Story  
 7:52 Eagle 810 News  
 7:50 Zama Commander's Corner (1st & 4th-Fri)  
 Yotaka Commander's Corner (2nd & 4th-Fri)  
 Yotaka/USFJ Chief's Corner (3rd Friday)  
 9:00 Betsey Gold (Oldies, 80s, 90s)

**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Pacific Report  
 12:07 Paul Harvey News and Commentary  
 12:21 Air Force Radio News  
 13:00 Top 40 Music  
 3:07 Traffic Jamz (Current Chart Hits)  
 4:55 Pacific Report  
 4:57 ANF Sportspage  
 4:52 Paul Harvey Rest of the Story  
 6:00 from the Bench Live Sports (Wed)  
 6:00 NPR's Morning Edition Live  
 Yotaka Commander's Corner (1st & 3rd Thursday)  
 8:00 Rush Limbaugh

9:00 The Touch (Urban); Mon/Tuesday  
 9:00 Pure Gold (Oldies); Wed/Thursday  
 9:00 Classic Rock (Alternative)  
 10:00 Sports Overnight America  
 4:00 NPR's Talk of the Nation Live  
**Morning (Sat)**  
 8:05 Car Talk  
 9:00 Kim Komando  
 10:00 Classic Rock  
**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Rick Dees Weekly Top 40  
 4:00 Rock (Alternative)  
 6:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night  
 7:00 The Touch (Urban)  
 7:50 2-Rock (Alternative)  
 2:00 Sports Overnight America  
 3:00 Adult Contemporary  
**POWER 1575**  
**Morning (Sun)**  
 6:00 NPR All Things Considered  
 8:00 Rush Limbaugh

9:00 Parent's Journal  
 10:00 Chef's Table  
 11:00 Sports Overnight America  
**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Adult Rock  
 4:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Morning Air Strike  
 10:00 The Touch (Urban)  
 12:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)  
**Morning (Mon-Fri)**  
 6:00 Morning Air Strike  
 6:30 Paul Harvey News  
 7:10 Horoscope  
 7:30 Hunka Wunka Radio News  
 8:30 Rest of the Story  
 12:05 David Letterman/Leno  
 9:00 Country Call Up  
 10:00 Sports Overnight Oldies (Fri)  
 11:00 Urban Assault

**Afternoon**  
 10:00 2-Rock/Golden Oldies (Fri)  
 2:00 The Afterburner  
 2:30 Inside Wunka Radio News  
 2:34 Rest of the Story  
 2:36 Pacific Report  
 3:30 Paul Harvey News  
 3:40 ANF Sportspage  
 4:00 Departure Time  
**Evening**  
 6:00 NPR: Fresh Air  
 7:00 The Rock Show (Mon/old School)  
 7:00 (Thu/The Mo'Nn Ti Fr)  
 7:10 Adult Rock  
 8:00 Country  
**Morning (Sat)**  
 6:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)  
 10:00 Soundbarrier  
 4:00 Departure Time

2:00 Rick Dees Weekly Top 40

**Evening**  
 6:00 NPR All Things Considered  
 7:00 The Jim Rome Show  
 8:00 The Touch  
 12:00 2-Rock  
 5:00 Hot Jazz

## JAPAN — MISAWA

## THE EDGE — AM 1575

**Morning (Sun)**  
 12:00 2-Rock  
 2:00 Classic Rock  
 4:00 Hot AC  
 6:00 Sam Donaldson  
 7:00 Religious  
 9:00 Oldies  
 10:00 Hot AC  
**Afternoon**  
 12:00 ACC Country  
 4:00 Adult Rock  
**Evening**  
 6:00 A Prairie Home  
 8:00 Hot AC  
**Morning (Mon-Thu)**  
 12:00 2-Rock  
 2:00 Classic Rock  
 4:00 Sports Overnite America  
 5:00 Rush Limbaugh  
 6:00 Matt in the Morning  
 9:00 Hot AC

## JAPAN — YOKOTA

## FM CABLE Radio Services (On Base Only)

**2-Rock (Alternative)** 90.3 FM  
**Eagle 810 (Variety)** 90.7 FM  
**National Public Radio (News, Talk)** 91.3 FM  
**Bright AC (Pop)** 91.7 FM  
**Adult Rock (Classic Rock)** 92.3 FM  
**The Touch (Urban)** 92.7 FM  
**Country** 93.3 FM  
**Pure Gold (Oldies)** 93.7 FM  
**Hot AC (Today's Hits)** 94.3 FM  
**National Public Radio**

**Morning (Sun)**  
 6:00 Weekend All Things Considered  
 8:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night  
 11:00 Piano Jazz  
**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Beethoven Network  
 1:00 Weekend All Things Considered  
 2:00 Dialogue  
 3:00 Uncommon Knowledge  
 3:30 The WFTM Jazz Network  
 5:00 Jazz Profiles  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Walt, Wait Don't Tell Me  
 6:00 A Prairie Home Companion  
 10:00 Weekend Edition Sunday  
 11:00 Justice Talking  
 12:00 Fresh Air Weekend  
 1:00 This American Home  
 2:00 A Show with Harry Shearer  
 3:00 On the Media  
 4:00 Newsradio  
 5:00 Weekly Edition  
**Morning (Mon)**

6:00 Weekend All Things Considered  
 8:00 The WFTM Beethoven Network  
 12:00 Jazz  
**Afternoon**  
 1:00 Weekend All Things Considered  
 2:00 Fresh Air Weekend  
 3:00 The WFTM Jazz Network  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Morning Edition  
 11:00 The Diane Rehm Show (call in)  
 12:00 Connection (call in)  
 1:00 Fresh Air  
 2:00 Walt, Wait Don't Tell Me  
 3:00 Talk of the Nation (call in)  
 5:00 All Things Considered  
**Morning (Tue-Fri)**  
 7:00 The World  
 8:00 Marketplace  
 8:30 Says You (Tue/Latinos USA (Wed)  
 9:00 The WFTM Beethoven Network  
**Afternoon**  
 1:00 All Things Considered  
 3:00 The WFTM Jazz Network  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Morning Edition  
 11:00 The Diane Rehm Show (call in)  
 12:00 The Connection (call in)  
 1:00 Fresh Air  
 2:00 Walt, Wait Don't Tell Me (Tue/Reve)  
 3:00 Says You (Wed/Newsweek)  
 4:00 Uncommon Knowledge (Sat)  
 5:00 Talk of the Nation (call in)  
 6:00 All Things Considered  
**Morning (Sat)**  
 7:00 The World  
 8:00 Marketplace  
 8:30 Revind  
 9:00 The WFTM Beethoven Network  
**Afternoon**

9:00 Adult Rock  
 3:00 The WFTM Jazz Network  
 5:00 WFTM Jazz  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Thistle & Shamrock  
 8:00 Revind  
 8:30 Says You  
 9:00 Weekend Edition Saturday  
 10:00 Live Local Talk (call in)  
 12:00 Beale Street Caravan  
 1:00 Weekend Edition Saturday  
 3:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night  
 5:00 National Press Club

## KOREA

**EAGLE FM**  
**Morning (Sun)**  
 12:00 2-Rock  
 2:00 Classic Rock  
 4:00 Bright Adult Contemporary  
 8:00 Christian Contemporary  
 9:00 Bright Adult Contemporary  
 10:05 Saturday Night 80's  
**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Bob Kingley's Country Countdown  
 4:00 Bright Adult Contemporary  
**Evening**  
 9:00 2-Rock  
**Morning (Mon-Fri)**  
 12:00 2-Rock  
 5:00 Live Local Show (Seoul, Ulsan, Gyeongsang, and Gangwon)  
**Afternoon**  
 1:00 Bright Adult Contemporary  
 3:00 Live Local Show (Korea-wide)  
**Evening**  
 9:00 Adult Rock  
 8:00 Urban Adult Contemporary

**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Classic Rock  
 3:00 Edge Afternoon Radio  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Hot AC  
 8:00 R&B  
 10:00 Hot AC  
**Morning (Fri)**  
 12:00 2-Rock  
 2:00 Classic Rock  
 4:00 Sports Overnite America  
 5:00 Rush Limbaugh  
 6:00 Matt in the Morning  
 9:00 Flashback  
 11:00 Hot AC  
**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Classic Rock  
 1:00 Inside The Line  
 3:00 That Country Show  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Classic Rock  
 8:00 R&B  
 10:00 Hot AC  
**Morning (Sat)**  
 12:00 2-Rock  
 2:00 Classic Rock  
 4:00 Hot AC  
 6:00 Oldies  
 8:00 Car Talk  
 9:00 Saturday Retro  
 12:00 Classic Rock  
 5:00 Kim Komando  
 7:00 Adult Rock  
 8:00 Jim Rome  
 9:00 2-Rock  
 10:00 Hot AC

**Afternoon**  
 12:00 Noon Report  
 12:30 News & Views  
 1:00 Dr. Laura  
 2:00 Country  
 3:00 Jim Rome Show

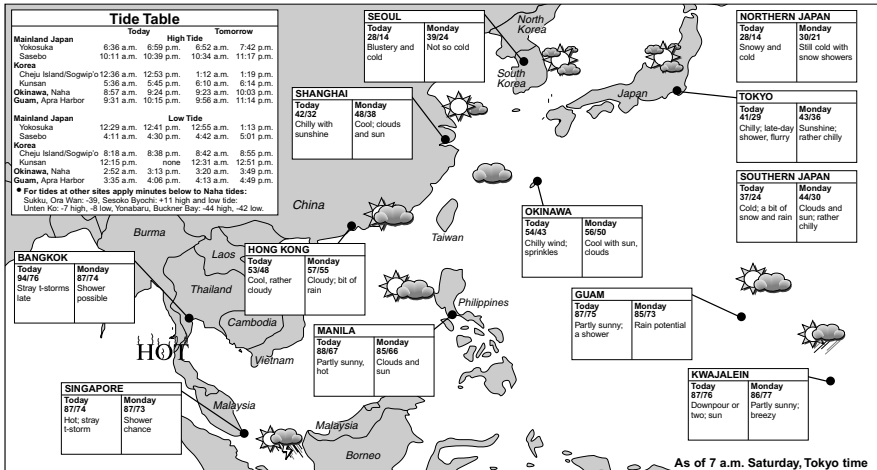
**Evening**  
 6:00 Evening Report  
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 8:00 NPR's Morning Edition  
**Morning (Tue-Fri)**  
 12:00 Country  
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 7:00 Morning Report  
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 8:00 Oldies Radio

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**Morning (Sat)**  
 12:00 Country  
 1:00 Savvy Traveler  
 7:00 Morning Report  
 7:30 NPR Market Place  
 8:00 Oldies Radio  
**Evening**  
 12:00 Noon Report  
 12:30 News & Views  
 1:00 Dr. Laura  
 2:00 Country  
 3:00 Jim Rome Show  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Evening Report  
 6:30 Sports Byline  
 7:00 Rush Limbaugh  
 8:00 NPR's Morning Edition  
**Morning (Sun)**  
 12:00 Country  
 1:00 Savvy Traveler  
 7:00 Morning Report  
 7:30 NPR Market Place  
 8:00 Oldies Radio  
**Evening**  
 12:00 Noon Report  
 12:30 News & Views  
 1:00 Dr. Laura  
 2:00 Country  
 3:00 Jim Rome Show  
**Evening**  
 6:00 Evening Report  
 6:30 Sports Byline  
 7:00 Rush Limbaugh  
 8:00 NPR's Morning Edition  
**Morning (Tue-Fri)**  
 12:00 Country  
 1:00 Savvy Traveler  
 7:00 Morning Report  
 7:30 NPR Market Place  
 8:00 Oldies Radio  
**Evening**  
 12:00 Noon Report  
 12:30 News & Views  
 1:00 Dr. Laura  
 2:00 Country  
 3:00 Jim Rome Show  
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 7:30 NPR Market Place  
 8:00 Oldies Radio  
**Evening**  
 12:00 Noon Report  
 12:30 News & Views

## The Pacific Forecast

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### Extended Forecasts

## TOKYO

Tuesday: Partly sunny,  
high 49, low 41.  
Wednesday: Partly sunny,  
high 56, low 48.

**KADENA**

Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine,  
high 66, low 61.  
Wednesday: Partly sunny,  
high 73, low 65.

**SEOUL**

Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 43, low 31.  
Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 50, low 32.

MANILA

Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine,  
high 87, low 68.  
Wednesday: Mostly cloudy,  
high 89, low 69.

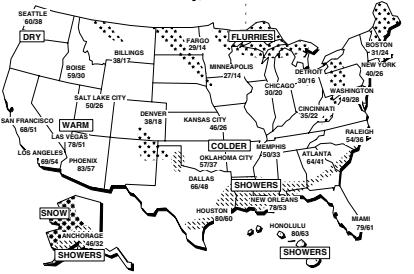
## HAGATNA

Tuesday: Thunderstorms, high 84, low 74.  
Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 89, low 76.

### Friday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Albuquerque	67/40	Los Angeles	79/56
Amarillo	70/41	Louisville	67/43
Anchorage	44/34	Louisville	42/35
Asheville	77/41	Madison	77/41
Baltimore	52/43	Milwaukee	35/19
Birmingham	64/32	Nashville	48/38
Birmingham	47/34	New York	39/30
Boise	70/43	Omaha	51/32
Boston	36/30	Orlando	74/48
Brownsville	81/62	Philadelphia	49/34
Burlington	31/24	Phoenix	82/36
Burlington	31/24	Pittsburgh	48/26
Charlotte	56/34	Portland, OR	73/45
Charleston	69/32	Portland, ME	33/29
Chicago	73/49	Portland, ME	53/33
Columbus, OH	37/29	St. Louis	70/50
Duluth	26/0	San Antonio	76/50
El Paso	71/41	San Diego	70/58
El Paso	32/29	San Diego	70/58
Helena	69/39	Tampa	71/50
Indianapolis	58/25	Tulsa	66/62
Indianapolis	71/41	Washington, DC	70/45
Kansas City	38/41	Wichita	70/46

**Sunday, March 13**



### U.S. Extended Forecast

Any snow across New England will taper off on Sunday as a storm system departs. Chilly air will continue to filter across the Northeast and the Midwest; some snow showers will occur downwind of the Great Lakes. The cold air will seep southward as a cold front sinks toward the Gulf Coast. Along this cold front, a few showers will occur. The tail end of the front will become draped across the Rockies; some snow will fall over the mountains with rain and mountain snow showers developing along the eastern slopes. Dry conditions will continue across the Southwest and the West Coast; however, temperatures will be slightly cooler than recent days as a cooling trend commences.

### Sunday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Bangkok	94/76	Iwakuni	36/24	Sasebo NB	37/26
Beijing	45/33	Kadena AB	54/43	Sapporo	28/14
Campan City	29/13	Kunsan AB	31/20	Seoul	28/14
Christiansburg	66/50	Kwajalein	81/67	Shanghai	34/24
Diego Garcia	88/77	Manila	88/67	Singapore	87/74
Hagatna	87/75	Misawa AB	30/13	Sydney	83/64
Honolulu	83/48	Osan	23/16	Tokyo	34/24
Hong Kong	53/48	Perth	85/50	Taipei	51/42
Honolulu	80/63	Pusan	32/21	Tokyo	43/29

### Sunday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Acapulco	87/69	Budapest	45/29	Kabul	69/44	Nairobi	82/54
Athens	68/55	Buenos Aires	75/57	Kiev	36/27	New Delhi	84/59
Auckland	59/52	Cairo	70/44	Kuwait	70/54	Oslo	21/21
Bahia	69/58	Cancun	62/50	Lima	69/47	Paris	70/50
Barbados	89/70	Cape Town	82/62	Madrid	53/45	Rio de Janeiro	87/43
Barcelona	58/46	Gaza	42/26	Mexico City	70/50	Rome	57/43
Berlin	31/22	Istanbul	51/37	Montreal	32/17	St. Petersburg	19/13
Bermuda	41/22	Jerusalem	50/37	Nagasaki	30/17	Sydney	30/17
Brussels	42/24	Johannesburg	54/36	Moscow	29/19	Warsaw	34/20



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# Roush on top, bottom as Nextel Cup rolls into Vegas

BY JENNA FRYER  
The Associated Press

**LAS VEGAS** — Kurt Busch is back in his hometown with a championship trophy and the Nextel Cup points lead. What's he's learned is that neither gets him very far.

"Vegas is a celebrity-driven city, so it takes a lot for people to get excited," he said. "But the times I have been back, there have been some spoils and it's

nice to be able to enjoy them, and for my friends and family to get some of that special treatment."

A victory at Las Vegas Motor Speedway would certainly get him a little more red-carpet treatment, and add Busch's name to the list of Roush Racing drivers who have won the UAW-Daimler-Chrysler 400.

Roush drivers have won five of the seven Nextel Cup races here, but series champion Busch isn't

one of them. His ninth-place finish last season is his only Top 10 in four career starts here.

It could be the pressure.

"Every time we go to Las Vegas it's like my own Daytona 500 with all of the media and family and friends and the sheer excitement of the city and being back at home," Busch said.

But crew chief Jimmy Fennig is determined to help his driver leave a winner.

"This race means a lot to Kurt and the whole team is excited about going back out to Vegas," Fennig said. "We've never run as well here as we've wanted to, and we came out here to test last month and learned a few things that hopefully can pay off for us this weekend."

Busch's toughest competition could come from his own camp, with teammate Matt Kenseth will be looking for a trifecta. The 2003 series champion has won the past

two Las Vegas races.

Kenseth isn't feeling too confident about another Sunday.

"Just because you've had success in the past doesn't guarantee it for this time or the next time," Kenseth said.

Luck has definitely not been on Kenseth's side this season.

Known for consistency and a knack for being near the front of the pack at the end of most races, Kenseth has instead found himself way back in the field in the season's first two events.

A blown motor led to a next-to-last place finish in the season-opening Daytona 500, and he was 26th at California.

Now Kenseth, in the top 10 in points for 71 consecutive weeks at the start of this season, is 36th in the standings.

He never seriously contended for the title last year under NASCAR's new 10-race playoff format. Driver error in the second round of the playoffs knocked him out of contention and he finished eighth in the final standings.

He's the only Roush driver off to a slow start this season.

Mark Martin is in third in the standings, rookie Carl Edwards fourth and Greg Biffle fifth after winning two weeks ago at California.

It would be natural for Kenseth to be angry about the equipment failure and circumstances that have separated him from his teammates. He's not.

"I mean it's always disappointing when you don't get the result," he said. "But I'd rather be running good and leading laps and feeling like we're capable of winning races and not getting the finishes due to circumstances, than to be running bad all day and then luck into a 10th- or 15th-place finish."



Kurt Busch

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# Flutie: 20 and done?

At age 42, former Boston College Heisman winner may be at the end of storied career

By BERNIE WILSON  
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Doug Flutie has been sent ramblin' and scramblin' once again, and this time it might be for good.

The San Diego Chargers released Flutie on Friday, the latest move in the quarterback's roundabout 20-year career that has taken him through eight teams in three professional leagues.

The 42-year-old Flutie will always be remembered for the "Hail Mary" pass against Miami that helped him win the 1984 Heisman Trophy with Boston College. While that play earned him legendary status that lingers to this day, he struggled for success in the NFL because there were always questions about his 5-foot-10 size.

Still, he'd like to keep playing, his agent, Kristen Kuliga said. Flutie wanted to play for one more season in San Diego because his daughter, who attends La Jolla High, will be a senior next fall.

"I think Doug definitely wants to try and play at least for another year," Kuliga said from Boston. "I'll be looking at what opportunities might be out there, with a team that wants a quality backup quarterback."

Flutie, a fan favorite wherever he's played, had two years left on his Chargers contract and was due a \$350,000 roster bonus on Tuesday. Counting that bonus, he was to be paid \$1.35 million in 2005.

Kuliga said Flutie became expendable after Drew Brees, who had an outstanding 2004 season, signed an \$8,078,000 contract as the team's "franchise" player. The Chargers also have Philip Rivers, the fourth overall pick in

last year's draft, and second-year man Cleo Lemon at quarterback.

In a statement released by the Chargers, Flutie thanked the late John Butler, who was general manager when the quarterback signed as a free agent in March 2001, and current GM A.J. Smith.

"There are no hard feelings. It's a mutual parting," Flutie said in the statement. "It's the right thing for me. It opens up other doors of opportunity for me if I want. Rather than retiring outright, I wanted to be released so that I could pursue other things if they arise."

Flutie often spoke of returning to the CFL, where he started from 1990-97, but Kuliga said she'd explore all NFL options first.

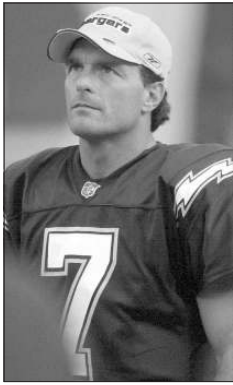
If no team signs Flutie, he will become the last USFL player to do the NFL. Punter Sean Landeta, cut last season by the St. Louis Rams, had often joked of outlasting Flutie for that honor.

Flutie followed Butler and Smith from Buffalo in 2001 and started all 16 games for the Chargers that season as he mentored Brees, then a rookie. Brees took over as starter in 2002 and then struggled so much in 2003 that he was replaced by Flutie for five games.

In a stunning victory over Minnesota in 2003, Flutie threw for two touchdowns and scrambled for two more. He accounted for half of the Chargers' four wins that season.

Flutie opened last season as Brees' backup, but was dropped to third string behind Rivers after the Chargers fell to 1-2. That's when Brees got hot, keeping Flutie out and Flutie on the bench for most of the season.

Flutie was signed by the New Jersey Generals in 1985 as the USFL tried to use his college stardom to build a following.



With his release on Friday from the San Diego Chargers, Doug Flutie's football career may be over after stops in three professional leagues.

He began his NFL career in 1986 with the Chicago Bears. He also played for the New England Patriots before starting an eight-year stint in Canada. He was the CFL's MVP six times, and won three Grey Cup titles.

He was brought back to the NFL by Buffalo in 1998, when Butler and Smith were the Bills' top personnel men. He helped the Bills reach the playoffs that year, and was also voted to the Pro Bowl and selected NFL Comeback Player of the Year.

## Report: Tice says he sold his tickets to Super Bowl

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota Vikings coach Mike Tice acknowledged scalping some of his personal Super Bowl ticket allotment last month in violation of NFL rules, according to a published report.

"I probably shouldn't have sold my tickets," Tice told SL.com in a report posted on the Web site Thursday night. "I made a mistake. I regret it. I'll never do it again. I'm going to be in trouble. I'll probably get slapped with a big fine."

The revelation came two days after SL.com first reported that Tice was being investigated for allegedly heading up a ticket-scalping operation within the Vikings organization.

Tice did not immediately return a phone message left late Thursday by The Associated Press.

The NFL acknowledged Wednesday that it is looking into allegations that Tice scalped tickets for the Super Bowl. Tice confirmed to the AP that he had met with league security officials, but declined to elaborate.

According to SL.com, Tice told NFL security investigators that he scalped part of his allotment of 12 tickets to this year's Super Bowl.

## Jets sign Fiedler to backup Pennington

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Jets signed Jay Fiedler on Friday, hoping the quarterback can provide experience and depth behind Chad Pennington.

Fiedler, who will be entering his 10th season, visited the team at its Hempstead complex Thursday and the sides started negotiating. He received a five-year deal with \$1.3 million guaranteed, including a \$500,000 signing bonus, according to his agent, Brian Levy.

Pennington is recovering from surgery on his right rotator cuff, and the Jets had no intention of bringing back Quincy Carter. Brooks Bollinger was the No. 3 quarterback last season, but is entering his third year in the league and needs more seasoning.

Fiedler, 33, spent the last five seasons with the Miami Dolphins and took considerable criticism as the successor to Dan Marino.

In five seasons with the Dolphins, Fiedler was 36-23 as a starter, throwing for 11,040 yards and 66 touchdowns, with 63 interceptions.

In other news Friday:

■ Free agent quarterback Mike McMahon signed a two-year deal with the Philadelphia Eagles and will compete with Koy Detmer for the backup job behind Donovan McNabb.

McMahon threw for 1,709 yards, 10 touchdowns and 13 interceptions in four seasons with the Detroit Lions. He also is mobile, having rushed for 291 yards and four TDs on 48 carries.

### NFL NFL roundup

■ A week after receiving a \$9 million signing bonus, Dallas Cowboys offensive lineman Marco Rivera underwent surgery to repair a bulging disk in his lower back. He's expected to return in time for training camp.

On Thursday: ■ The New York Giants said in a news release that they pulled back their offer to free agent wide receiver Plaxico Burress, an announcement almost never made in the NFL.

Burress' agent said the player had rejected the team.

"The Giants made us an offer, we rejected, they upped the offer, we rejected it again, and that's when they said they had to rescind the deal," Michael Harrison told The Associated Press, saying Burress would next visit Minnesota.

■ Denver matched the New York Jets' offer sheet to tight end Jed Putzier, a restricted free agent. Putzier, who averaged 15.9 yards per catch last year on 36 receptions, will get \$12.5 million over five years, with a \$2.5 million signing bonus.

■ The Green Bay Packers released two-time Pro Bowl safety Darren Sharper to trim \$3.4 million off their salary cap and avoid having to pay him a \$2.6 million roster bonus this weekend. The team tried to get Sharper to re-

structure his deal, but he balked at a pay cut, hoping he can make more on the open market than the approximately \$2 million Green Bay was offering for 2005.

■ The Raiders re-signed guard Ross Stone just a week after waiving him in a salary cap maneuver. Stone, a three-time Pro Bowler, started only five games for the Raiders last season while slowed by an injured left knee.

■ Philadelphia safety/kick returner J.R. Reed may not be ready for training camp after injuring his leg in a preseason game last month. Reed cut the back of his knee while jumping over a fence near his home in Tampa, Fla., and damaged a nerve that affects the use of his lower leg and foot.

He had surgery March 1, and his status is uncertain.

■ Carolina signed safety Marlon Croline, who played last season for Houston. He will back up Mike Minter and Colin Branch.

■ Brad Johnson, who quarterbacked Tampa Bay to the 2002 NFL championship, worked out for the Bears.

■ Baltimore signed former Pittsburgh lineman Keydrick Vincent to fill a vacancy at right guard. Vincent got a three-year contract worth \$4.6 million that includes a \$1.25 million signing bonus.

A 16-game starter last season for the AFC North champion Steelers, Vincent will replace Willie Anderson, a four-year starter who the Ravens declined not to keep.

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Reviewed by: Overseas GI on Feb. 14, 2005

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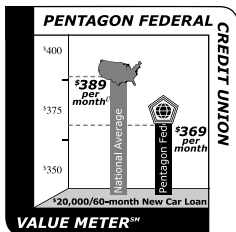


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# Miller poised to be king of the slopes

After winning World Cup super-G crown, American on verge of taking overall title

The Associated Press

LENZERHEIDE, Switzerland — Bode Miller tied with American teammate Daron Rahalves to win the final super-G of the season on Friday, virtually wrapping up the overall World Cup title.

Miller increased his overall World Cup lead to 184 points over Benjamin Raich of Austria, who finished 11th in Friday's race.

It was Miller's first World Cup victory since a slalom at Sestriere, Italy, on Dec. 13, and it ended Hermann Maier's pursuit of the World Cup super-G title.

The Austrian started the day with a 54-point lead over Miller in the super-G standings. Miller and Maier were the final two skiers down the course.

After Miller finished even with Rahalves in 1 minute, 10.24 seconds, Maier needed a top-three finish to secure the title. He was ninth.

"I really had my heart set on that," said Miller, who became the first American to win the super-G title since the discipline was introduced in 1986. "It was matter of Hermann more than me. I did my part and then all I could do was watch him. He made a mistake in the middle and that was it."

Miller, who finished 17 points ahead of Maier in the final super-G standings, said he was helped by a course report from Rahalves, who won his first race of the season.

"I put down an amazingly aggressive run today," Rahalves said. In the overall standings, Miller leads Raich 1,528 points to 1,344.

## Sports briefs

The only way Miller can lose the overall title is if Raich wins the remaining two races — Saturday's giant slalom and Sunday's slalom — and the American finishes outside the top 15 both days.

"There are still 200 points up for grabs," Miller said. "It's never over until it's mathematically over. Benni can win both events, so I need to ski well."

### Dorfmeister wins super-G title

LENZERHEIDE, Switzerland — Austria's Michaela Dorfmeister won the final super-giant slalom of the season on Friday, capturing the World Cup title in the discipline.

Sweden's Anja Paerson extended her lead over Croatia's Janica Kostelic in the overall standings with a third-place finish.

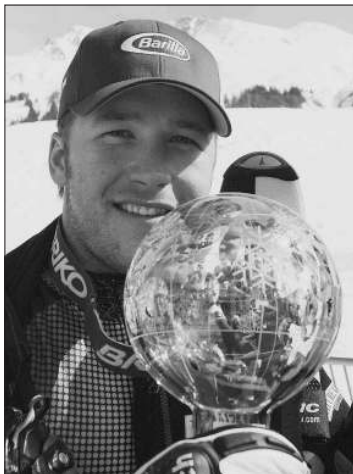
Dorfmeister, the 2001-02 overall winner, won the giant slalom title in 1999 and 2000 and the downhill crown in 2003.

Lindsey Kildow of the United States placed fourth on Friday and finished third in the super-G standings.

Paerson leads Kostelic by 89 points with Saturday's slalom and Sunday's giant slalom remaining. Victorias are worth 100 points.

### NHL players' union meet, promise to meet again

NEW YORK — The NHL and the players' association met for



Bode Miller, above, is the first American to win the World Cup super-G title since the discipline was introduced in 1986. With a 184-point lead entering the final two races, Miller is poised to become the first American to win an overall title since Phil Mahre and Tamara McKinney in '83.

1½ hours Friday in Toronto and expect to talk more next week.

The meeting was the first between the sides since Feb. 19 — three days after commissioner Gary Bettman canceled the 2004-05 season.

"It was just general conversation," players' association executive director Bob Goodenow said in a telephone interview. "We talked about how we might progress on a going-forward basis."

Bettman invited Goodenow back to the table for Friday's

meeting after the pair sat out the last session.

"We plan to meet again next week for further dialogue," Goodenow said. "There were no proposals exchanged today. ... I think we just talked about where we are. We didn't get into any specifics."

### Gebhardt leads Iditarod

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Paul Gebhardt enjoyed a seven-course gourmet meal Friday for being the first musher to reach the Yukon River in the 1,100-mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Gebhardt, 48, whose best finish was second in 2000, reached the Anvik checkpoint at 7:14 a.m. AST. For being first to the Yukon, Gebhardt enjoyed some distinctly non-trail fare that included braised musk ox and shikate mushroom stew and buffalo tenderloin with peppercorn sauce. He also received \$3,000 crisp \$1 bills.

Gebhardt is the only one of several mushers in the top tier who has not taken a mandatory 24-hour rest. He said he would satisfy the requirement at Anvik, 481 miles from Nome.

In second place was Robert Sorlie of Norway, the 2003 Iditarod winner. Four-time winner Martin Buser was in third, followed by Yukon Quest winner Ally Zirkle and Ranny Brooks of Healy.

# Campbell fires 64 in chilly Florida

The Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — Chad Campbell warmed up as the weather did.

The burly Texan overcame a slow start in chilly, windy conditions Thursday

## Golf roundup

to shoot an 8-under-par 64 and take a two-stroke lead after the opening round of the Honda Classic.

Campbell began on the back nine shortly after 7 a.m. EST, when temperatures were in the 50s, and bogeyed Nos. 10 and 16. He holed a 70-yard shot on the par-5 17th for eagle, then followed with six birdies on the front nine.

Host of the 144-player field at the Country Club at Miraval finished before noon. Among those early starters, only Campbell shot better than 69, a reflection of the conditions.

"We were joking that maybe they let him on the member course," said Davis Love III, who was happy to shoot 71.

Alone in second place at 66 was Brett Wetterich, playing 10 minutes from his home in Jupiter. Jesper Parnevik, another Jupiter resident and the 2001 champion, shot 67 three days after turning 40. Both players benefited from mild afternoon weather.

The sky was clear all day, but winds exceeded 15 mph at the start, and with the grass still spongy from daylong rain Wednesday, the 7,468-yard course played long.

At 68 were Woody Austin, Nick Watney and Aaron Baddeley, who has finished in the top 10 in his past two starts. A group of 14 players at 69 included defending champion Todd Hamilton, Lee Janzen, Brad Faxon and 21-year-old Kevin Na, the youngest player on the tour.

Vijay Singh, playing his first round since he fell to No. 2 in the world rankings, shot 71.

### Els still seven back in Qatar

DOHA, Qatar — Richard Green of Australia shot 4-under 68 Friday to take a one-stroke lead over Sweden's Pierre Fulke and Robert Karlsson after the second round of the Qatar Masters.

Ernie Els, the only top-50 player in the field, shot a 69 after an opening 73 but remained seven strokes off the lead.

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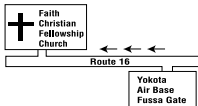
5:00 am - 6:00 am Morning Prayer (Daily)  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Noonday Prayer (Tues/Wed/Thurs)  
7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Bible Study  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Worship  
6:00 p.m. 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday Night Service

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# Jackets thwart upstart Hokies

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — B.J. Elder scored 19 points, Jarrett Jack and Bill Bynum had 13 apiece, and Georgia Tech pulled away at the start of the second half to ruin Virginia Tech's Atlantic Coast Conference tournament debut with a 73-54 victory Friday.

Recovering from a slow start, the Yellow Jackets displayed the flair and defense that had them ranked in the Top 10 in November. They led the Hokies to 37 percent shooting, including an 0-for-9 stretch to open the second half that gave Georgia Tech a double-digit lead it never relinquished.

The Yellow Jackets will face top-seeded North Carolina in Saturday's semifinals. The Tar Heels, who defeated Clemson 88-81 in Friday's opener, beat Georgia Tech 91-69 at Chapel Hill on Jan. 12 in the teams' only meeting during the regular season.

Georgia Tech (18-10), seeded fifth, overcame 22 turnovers to end a streak of 12 games in which they had alternated wins and losses, a show of inconsistency that had placed some doubt as to whether last year's national runner-up would return to the NCAA tournament.

Carlos Dixon scored 12 points to lead the fourth-seeded Hokies (15-13), who finished with a surprising 8-8 conference record in their first ACC season. Virginia Tech nearly had more turnovers (18) than field goals (19) and was hurt by subpar shooting from Zabian Dowdell

(1-for-7), Deron Washington (1-for-6) and Coleman Collins (4-for-11).

Dowdell, who led the ACC in three-point shooting percentage in the regular season, missed all three of his long-range attempts and finished with just six points, ending a 14-game streak in double figures.

Both teams prefer low scoring and they produced a first half that included more turnovers (23) than field goals (20). Jack and Bynum picked up two early fouls, and Dowdell went 0-for-5 from the field in the half.

Down by seven early, the Hokies went on a 10-0 run that was so tepid that their fans barely seemed to notice. The Yellow Jackets responded with a 10-0 spurt, including back-to-back three-pointers by Jack and Elder, the start of a 20-2 run that continued into the second half.

Elder and Jack had combined for 15 points in the run, while Virginia Tech struggled against a defense that led the league in opponent's field goal percentage.

Virginia Tech got as close as 57-43 with 6:30 to play, but Georgia Tech sealed the game with a 9-0 run, capped by Bynum's three-pointer.

On Thursday:

**Virginia 66, Miami 65:** J.R. Reynolds scored a career-high 32 points and made sure coach Pete Gillen's coaching tenure at Virginia would last at least one more game.

Reynolds made 10 of 14 shots, including five of seven three-pointers, and got virtually no support from his teammates until a 9-4 game-closing run that broke a five-game losing streak and put Virginia

(14-14), seeded last in the tournament, into Friday's quarterfinals against third-seeded Duke.

Devin Smith, who was 1-for-9 at the time, hit a three-pointer with 2:26 to play to give Virginia its first lead of the second half, 62-61. Freshman Sean Singletary also struggled, but he made a tough short jumper in traffic to push the lead to three.

The game was in the balance until literally the final second. Guillermo Diaz made two free throws with 22 seconds remaining to pull Miami within 66-65. Anthony King then stole an errant inbound pass, giving the Hurricanes the chance to set up the final shot for the win. Anthony Harris was wide open for a three-pointer from the left wing, but his attempt bounced off the rim and time expired as players fought for the rebound.

"I'm an emotional guy," Gillen said. "I cry when supermarkets open. The season's over if he makes the shot. We're excited to win. I'm happy for the players. They showed courage and confidence."

Diaz scored 20 points, his 26th consecutive double-digit game, to lead Miami (16-12), but he made just five of 15 shots. The Hurricanes shot 31 percent from the field and made just one field goal in the game's final 10 minutes.

Miami, picked to finish last in the conference in the preseason poll, entered its first ACC tournament as the No. 6 seed in Frank Haith's first season as a head coach, but the loss probably ends any hope of receiving an at-large bid in the NCAA tournament. The Hurricanes have lost five of their past six.

## Heels: Carolina averts historic tourney upset

HEELS, FROM BACK PAGE

Robinson had 15 of his 17 points in the first half, a day after he scored 24 points in an upset of Maryland. Hamilton added 16 and Sharrod Ford had 15 for the Tigers.

"Basically, we just played hard for 37 minutes, and the last 3 minutes, we couldn't hold them off," Ford said.

McCants, May and Javaw Williams all had 13 points for the Tar Heels, who will play Georgia Tech in the semifinals.

North Carolina seemingly locked up a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament with a dramatic victory over Duke earlier in the week, a result which wrapped up its first outright regular-season title since 1993. But Clemson, playing inspired basketball in the last couple of weeks to win four of its previous five games, gave the Tar Heels all they could handle.

"You never have doubt," North Carolina forward Marvin Williams said. "You've just got to keep fighting. You've got to be ready, because really good teams are not going to let you come back from 13 down."

The Tigers led throughout most of the second half, holding North Carolina to only one basket during an 8-minute span. When Ford made a free throw with 9:20 remaining, they led 71-58. Williams snapped the Tar Heels' drought with a three-point play, and McCants swished two threes in a matter of seconds to start the comeback.

"We definitely tightened up," Clemson coach Oliver Purnell said. "We turned it over in the frontcourt, we turned it over in the backcourt and we didn't take real good shots."

# YOUTH EASTER CELEBRATION



## Easter Egg Hunt

Ages	TIME	LOCATION
0 to 2	0900	Tennis Courts
3 to 4	0910	Tennis Courts
5 to 6	0920	Golf Area
7 to 8	0930	Small Softball Field
9 to 12	0940	Main Softball Field

There will be one secret prize egg per division. Areas are subject to change. Stay tuned to the Seahawk for possible changes or call 241-4891.

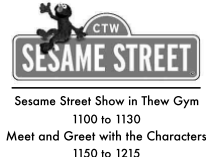
**Saturday, March 26**  
**at Yokosuka Naval Base**  
**Eggstravaganza** from 0930 to 1200  
 \$5 per child over 1 year old. Parents are free.

### Fee includes:

- Sesame Street Show
- Face Painting
- Soft Playroom
- Air Toys
- Arts and Crafts area

### Additional charge:

- Professional picture with the Easter Bunny
- Breakfast food and beverages



# Everett boosts No. 17 Oklahoma into semifinals

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Terrell Everett had 18 hits, seven assists and two steals and made a key play in the final seconds Friday to lead No. 17 Oklahoma past Missouri 83-79 in the second round of the Big 12 tournament.

It was the seventh straight victory for the top-seeded Sooners, who have not lost since falling 68-65 in overtime to Missouri on Feb. 12.

"If there's anybody playing better in our league right now, I don't know who it is," said Luanne Kleiza, who had 26 points in Missouri's first-round victory over Nebraska,

Big 12

scored a career-high 33 and was hit by 17 of 19 from the foul line.

The eighth-seeded Tigers (16-16) used runs of 12-2 in the first half and 12-1 in the second to edge the co-champion Sooners (24-6).

Missouri had tied a team record with 23 straight free throws before Kleiza missed the front end of a two-shot foul with 22 seconds left. He made the second, signaling Oklahoma's lead to 80-77.

But after David Godbold's free throw for Oklahoma, the Tigers only had time for two more foul shots by Jason Conley.

Drew Lavender had 17 points for Oklahoma and Lawrence McKenzie had 11 for the Sooners.

**Texas Tech 64, Iowa St. 56:** Jarriss Jackson scored 20 points, six on free throws in the final minute, and Texas Tech (19-9) advanced to the Big 12 semifinals and a match with Oklahoma.

Texas Tech, down eight by 9 minutes remaining, went on the 14-2 run — capped by Curtis Marshall's dunk with 1:41 left — for a 56-52 lead over the Cyclones (18-11).

Curtis Stinson flipped in a layup with 1:29 left, getting the Cyclones within 56-54, but Devonne Gills hit two free throws with 52 seconds left to make it 58-54.

On Thursday:

**Colorado 81, Texas 69:** Richard Roby had 17 points and 10 rebounds, and Colorado (14-15) became the first No. 11 seed to win in the opening round of the tournament's nine-year history.

The sixth-seeded Longhorns (20-10) fell behind for good after the Buffaloes' 15-1 run midway through the second half.

**Kansas St. 68, Texas A&M 62:** Jeremiah Massey scored six of his 18 points in a clutch 14-4 second-half run that propelled the Wildcats (17-11) to their first tournament win since 2002.

Antoine Wright had 28 points for the Aggies (19-15) in the tournament, thanks in the inception of the Big 12.

## Conference tournaments

### America East

Championship  
Saturday  
Northeastern at Vermont

### Atlantic Coast

Thursday  
Clemson 84, Maryland 72  
North Carolina St., 76, Florida St. 54  
Virginia, 66, Miami 63

### Friday

North Carolina 88, Clemson 81  
Linx Tech 13, Virginia Tech 54  
Wake Forest 68, NC State 61  
Duke vs. Virginia

### Saturday

N. Carolina vs. Georgia Tech  
Wake Forest/NC State vs. Duke/Virginia

### Sunday

Championship

### Atlantic 10

Thursday  
Saint Joseph's 63, Richmond 51  
Xavier 63, La Salle 70  
George Washington 79, Fordham 63  
Temple 61, Dayton 55

### Friday

Saint Joseph's vs. Xavier  
George Washington vs. Temple

### Saturday

Championship

### Big East

Thursday  
West Virginia 78, Boston College 72  
Villanova 67, Pittsburgh 66  
Connecticut 66, Georgetown 62  
Syracuse 65, Rutgers 57

### Friday

Connecticut vs. Villanova  
Connecticut vs. Syracuse

### Saturday

Championship

### Big Ten

Thursday  
Iowa State 68, Michigan 56  
Iowa 71, Purdue 52  
Northwestern 69, Penn State 69

### Friday

Illinois 68, Northwestern 51  
Minnesota 71, Indiana 55  
Michigan State vs. Iowa  
Wisconsin vs. Ohio State

### Saturday

Illinois vs. Minnesota/Indiana  
Michigan St./Iowa vs. Wisconsin/Ohio St.

### Sunday

Championship

### Big 12

Thursday  
Missouri 70, Nebraska 67  
Iowa State 77, Baylor 55  
Kansas State 68, Texas A&M 62  
Colorado 81, Texas 69

### Friday

Oklahoma 83, Missouri 79  
Texas Tech 64, Iowa State 56  
Kansas vs. Kansas State  
Baylor vs. Colorado

### Saturday

Oklahoma vs. Texas Tech/Iowa State  
Kansas/Kansas St. vs. Okla. St./Colorado

### Sunday

Championship

### Big West

Cal State Fullerton 66, Santa Barbara 56  
Cal State Northridge 72, UC Irvine 56

### Friday

Pacific vs. Cal State Fullerton  
Utah State vs. Cal State Fullerton

### Saturday

Championship

### Conference USA

Thursday  
Louisville 65, TCU 61  
Ala.-Birmingham 59, DePaul 56  
Memphis 61, Charlotte 69  
South Florida 68, Cincinnati 68

### Friday

Louisville vs. Alabama/Birmingham  
Memphis vs. South Florida

### Mid-American

Thursday  
Buffalo 85, Toledo 72  
W. Michigan 66, Akron 60, OT  
Miami (Ohio) 85, Bowling Green 65  
Ohio St. 62, Kent State 55

### Friday

Miami (Ohio) vs. Ohio  
Buffalo vs. Western Michigan

### Saturday

Championship

### Mid-Eastern Athletic

Thursday  
South Carolina St., 76, Norfolk St. 59  
Coppin St. 60, Morgan St. 43  
Hampton vs. Coppin St.

### Friday

Delaware St. 61, South Carolina St. 48  
Hampton vs. Coppin St.

### Saturday

Championship

### Mountain West

Thursday  
Utah 62, Colorado St. 49  
UNLV 70, Wyoming 63  
When the Aztecs met Brigham Young 71  
San Diego State 73, Air Force 68

### Friday

Utah vs. UNLV  
New Mexico vs. San Diego State

### Saturday

Championship

### Pacific-10

Thursday  
Arizona 88, California 66  
Oregon State 73, UCLA 72  
Washington State 75, Arizona State 50, OT  
Stanford 60, Washington State 58

### Friday

Arizona vs. Oregon State  
Washington vs. Stanford

### Saturday

Championship

### Patriot

Thursday  
Washburn 75, Eastern Wash. 70  
Washington St. 68, Idaho 55

### Friday

Bucknell at Holy Cross

### Saturday

Championship

### Southwestern

Thursday  
Mississippi 53, South Carolina 52  
Mississippi State 75, Georgia 65  
Tennessee 65, Arkansas 48  
Auburn 77, Vanderbilt 73

### Friday

Alabama 63, Mississippi 52  
Florida 80, Mississippi State 64  
Kentucky vs. Tennessee

### Saturday

Alabama vs. Auburn  
Kentucky/Tennessee vs. LSU/Auburn

### Sunday

Championship

### Southland

Thursday  
Texas Tech 64, Louisiana State 56  
Alabama A&M 64, Arkansas-Pine Bluff 52  
Southern 75, Alabama State 75  
SE Louisiana at Northwestern State

### Friday

Championship

### Southwestern Athletic

Thursday  
Jackson St. 57, Mississippi Valley 55  
Southern 65, Grambling 50, OT  
Alabama State 64, Prairie View A&M 55  
Alabama A&M 64, Arkansas-Pine Bluff 52

### Friday

Southern vs. Alabama State  
Jackson State vs. Alabama A&M

### Saturday

Championship

### Western Athletic

Thursday  
Texas-E Paso 80, Hawaii 62  
Rice 63, Southern Methodist 47  
Fresno State 84, Louisiana Tech 81, OT

### Friday

Texas-E Paso vs. Rice  
Fresno State vs. Boise State

### Saturday

Championship

# Air Force upset in MWC

The Associated Press

DENVER — Brandon Heath scored 28 points, assisted Marcus Slaughter added 24, helping San Diego State knock off No. 3 seed Air Force 73-68 Thursday night in the first round of the Mountain West Conference tournament.

San Diego State (11-17) led by 13 in the second half before Air Force (18-12) used pressure defense and timely outside shots to stay close.

The Falcons trailed 65-62 after Matt McCraw's three-point shot with 58 seconds left and got a break when the Aztecs' Matt Thomas missed two free throws. But Air Force could not get the rebound and Jacob Buttschi was assessed a technical foul for arguing in a call. San Diego State then made four free throws.

The Falcons, who reached the NCAAs last year for the first time since 1997, lost their 13th consecutive game in a conference tournament game Thursday.

**New Mexico 85, BYU 71:** Led by 23 points from Danny Granger and a career-high 12 assists from Mark Walters, the Lobos (24-6) beamed up their resume against overmatched BYU (9-21).

**UNLV 70, Wyoming 63:** Michael Umeh scored 20 of his 21 points in the first half and Ricky Morgan hit 14 straight free throws in the final five minutes to lift the Rebels (16-12) over the Cowboys (15-13).

### Southeastern

**No. 20 Alabama 65, Mississippi 52:** At Atlanta, Earnest Shelton made a career-high eight true-shooters and scored 26 points Friday, and the Crimson Tide (24-6) made 13 of 25 shots from three-point range in dominating the Rebels (14-17). Shelton converted eight of 11 from long range.

**Florida 80, Mississippi 51:** 64: Anthony Robertson scored 19 points and Florida hit a season-high 12 three-pointers, helping the Gators (21-7) cruise past Mississippi State (22-10).

Matt Walsh hit five three-pointers and Robertson and Corey Brewer had three apiece as Florida hit 12 of 24 from beyond the arc.

On Thursday:

**Auburn 77, Vanderbilt 73:** At Atlanta, Tony Douglas scored 23

## Conference tourneys

points as the Tigers (14-16) held on to beat the Commodores (18-13) despite losing nearly all of a 21-point second-half lead.

**Tennessee 65, Arkansas 46:** Scooter McFadden scored 22 points and the Volunteers (14-16) took control in the first half with a 21-2 run. The Razorbacks (18-12) trailed by 10 at halftime and never threatened to make it close.

### Atlantic 10

**Temple 61, Dayton 51:** At Cincinnati, despite coach John Chaney's suspension, the Owls (16-12) used intimidating defense to thwart the Flyers (18-11), who shot 34.5 percent from the field.

**George Washington 79, Fordham 63:** Pops Mensah-Bonsu scored 21 points and Mike Hall added 18 as the Colonials (20-7) beat the Rams (13-16) for the sixth consecutive time.

### Western Athletic

**Boise St. 73, No. 24 Nevada 72:** At Reno, Nev., Jermaine Blackburn scored off a rebound of a missed free throw with 1.8 seconds left as the eight-seeded Broncos (15-17) snapped Nevada's 10-game winning streak.

Nick Fazekas scored 18 points for top-seeded Wolf Pack (24-6).

**Fresno St. 84, Louisiana Tech 81 (OT):** JaVance Coleman scored seven of his 24 points in overtime to lift the fourth-seeded Bulldogs (16-13) over fifth-seeded Louisiana Tech (14-15).

**Rice 63, SMU 47:** Michael Harris scored 25 points and J.R. Harrison added 11 for the third-seeded Owls (19-10). SMU is 14-14.

**UTEP 80, Hawaii 62:** Omar Thomas scored 21 points and Filbert Rivera had 19 to help UTEP (25-7) rout No. 7 seed Hawaii (16-13).

### Mid-American

**Miami (Ohio) 85, Bowling Green 65:** At Cleveland, Danny Horace scored a career-high 28 points, Chet Mason added 21 and top-seeded Miami (Ohio) 19-9 averaged last week's loss to the eighth-seeded Falcons (18-11).

**Ohio 62, Kent State 55:** Conference freshman of the year Leon Williams had 14 points and 11 rebounds to lead the fourth-seeded Bobcats (19-10) over fifth-seeded Golden Flashes (20-12).

**Buffalo 85, Toledo 72:** Calvin Cage scored 23 points to help the seventh-seeded Bulls (21-8) avenge a loss to the Rockets (16-13) in last year's quarterfinals.

**W. Michigan 66, Akron 60 (OT):** Ben Seed scored 24 points and the third-seeded Broncos (19-11) scored all eight points on free throws in overtime to eliminate the defending tournament champion Zips (19-10).

### Big West

**CS Northridge 72, UC Irvine 56:** At Anaheim, Calif., Joseph Frazier scored 18 points and Ian Boylan had 16 as the fourth-seeded Matadors (17-12) dispatched the fifth-seeded Anteaters (16-13).

**Cal St. Fullerton 66, UC Santa Barbara 55:** Ralph Holmes had 20 points and 11 rebounds to boost the fourth-seeded Titans (19-9) over the seventh-seeded Gauchos (11-18).

### Mid-Eastern Athletic

**Coppin St. 60, Morgan St. 43:** At Richmond, Va., Darryl Proctor scored 12 of his 21 points in the second half and Coppin State (14-14) scored the game's final 12 points. Morgan State (13-16) committed 21 second-half turnovers.

**South Carolina St. 76, Norfolk St. 59:** Thurman Zimmerman scored 16 points and Shawn Wiggins added 15 to help South Carolina State (19-11) reach the semifinals. MEAC player of the year Chakovsky Hicks was held to 10 points for Norfolk State (13-14).

### Southwestern Athletic

**Alabama A&M 64, Ark.-Pine Bluff 52:** At Birmingham, Ala., Marcus Young had 13 points and the Bulldogs (16-13) maintained a double-digit lead after a 14-2 run midway through the first half.

**Alabama St. 64, Prairie View 56:** Raleaf Golden scored 17 points to lead the Hornets (14-14), who trailed 25-13 at halftime but finished the game on a 10-4 run to beat the Panthers (6-22).

**Southern U. 69, Grambling St. 65:** Deon Saunders scored a game-high 23 to guide the Jaguars (14-14) over the Tigers (14-12).

**Jackson State 57, Mississippi Valley State 55:** Jackson State (16-15) had 14 points and 12 rebounds to lead the fourth-seeded Bobcats (19-10) over fifth-seeded Golden Flashes (20-12).

# Big East beast?

## Surprising West Virginia knocks off top seed; No. 19 Villanova next in line for Mountaineers

By DENNIS WASZAK JR.

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — With chants of "ACC! ACC!" and "Over-rated," the Big East tournament crowd sarcastically booed Boston College a not-so-fond farewell.

The top-seeded Eagles, who are moving to the Atlantic Coast Conference next season, couldn't overcome a 25-point deficit and dropped a 78-72 decision to upstart West Virginia in the quarterfinals Thursday.

"I think people are down after losing this game right here," Eagles forward Jared Dudley said. "High hopes, high expectations for us to come in this tournament, make it to the championship game and win it. So, you know, with this loss, it's a setback."

"But that's all it is. We're going to bounce back."

The seventh-ranked Eagles (24-4) better hope so — and fast. They shared the regular-season title with Connecticut, but spluttered through their last eight games, going just 4-4.

"Guys have to take a little pride in themselves and their team and go out and work harder," Boston College coach Al Skinner said. "It's just that simple. Our preparation, our focus has got to be there. Right now, it's lacking."

The league couldn't be said of West Virginia (20-9), which very likely wrapped up at least an NCAA tournament at-large bid by impressing the selection committee with the surprising victory over the Big East's top seed.

"Obviously, I'm biased, but they will choose the right teams and there's no doubt in our minds that we're one of the right teams," West Virginia coach John Beilein said.

Mike Gansey scored 21 points and Kevin Pittsnogle added 17 for the eight-seeded Mountaineers.

"It's a great feeling to come in here, play against a good team and prove that we're a good team," Pittsnogle said. "We're having a lot of fun."

Making the win even more impressive for the Mountaineers was that they did it without

top scorer Tyrone Sally, who missed the game with a stomach ailment.

Craig Smith scored 20 points and grabbed eight rebounds for Boston College.

Gansey's three-point play 19 seconds into the second half gave West Virginia a 47-22 lead. Boston College went on runs of 10-0 and 11-5 and pulled to 62-58 with 4:41 left before the Mountaineers regained control.

**No. 19 Villanova 67, No. 22 Pittsburgh 58:** Randy Foye scored 23 points and Villanova (22-6) won its eighth straight, advancing to the semifinals for the second straight year.

"We played great team defense," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "We knew Pittsburgh would be tough and they were. This was an old-school Big East game, a bloodbath."

The loss ended a four-year run of championship game appearances for Pittsburgh (20-8).

**No. 12 Connecticut 66, Georgetown 62:** Freshman Rudy Gay had 17 points for Connecticut, which hung on despite getting only one basket in the final five minutes.

The second-seeded and 12th-ranked Huskies (22-6) have been in the last three championship games, winning the title in 2002 and 2004, and have reached the semifinals seven of the last eight years.

The Huskies had to sweat this one out as they won their seventh straight and 10th of 11.

"I think we played one of our poorer games and a lot of that was caused by Georgetown," Huskies coach Jim Calhoun said.

Ashanti Cook had 17 points for the Hoyas (17-12).

**No. 16 Syracuse 81, Rutgers 57:** Gerry McNamara scored 25 points and Hakim Warrick added 23 points and 13 rebounds to lead third-seeded and 16th-ranked Syracuse (25-6) into the semifinals against Connecticut. The Huskies swept the Orange this season, including an 88-70 victory last Saturday to wrap up the regular season.

"They got us the last two games, so we definitely know what to expect," Warrick said for Connecticut.

Quincy Douby had 14 points to lead Rutgers (10-19), which was trying to reach the semifinals for just the second time in school history.



Hakim Warrick soars for a dunk in Syracuse's 81-57 romp over Rutgers on Thursday night.

# Louisville and upsets highlight C-USA play

The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Larry O'Bannon scored 18 points to lead five Louisville players in double figures, and the sixth-ranked Cardinals beat TCU 85-61 in the quarterfinals of the Conference USA tournament.

The top-seeded Cardinals (27-4) led throughout in winning their seventh straight game and 16th in the last 17.

TCU (19-13) stayed close for the first 11 minutes before Louisville blew out the Horned Frogs, as happened in four of the previous five meetings.

Francisco Garcia had 15 points for Louisville, Taquan Dean finished with 12 and Otis George added 11. Ellis Myrland had 10 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists.

**South Florida 80, No. 21 Cincinnati 68:** Terrence Leather scored 16 of his 21 points in the second half to lead South Florida's upset of the Bearcats.

The 11th-seeded Bulls (14-15) have won three straight and reached the tournament semifinals for the first time in their last season as a member. The Bulls will be playing in the Big East next season, along with Louisville and Cincinnati (24-7).

Brian Swift added 16 points for the Bulls, James Holmes and Marlyn Bryant each had 14.

Jason Maxiell led Cincinnati with 21 points. Eric Hicks added 18 and James White had 10.

The Bearcats had won 14 straight over South Florida.

**Memphis 83, No. 25 Charlotte 69:** Rodney Carney scored 20 points as Memphis (18-14) continued its run through the conference tournament. Memphis, seeded seventh, won the second straight night after a season-ending four-game skid. St. Louis, Memphis' first victim in the tournament was one of the losses during that stretch, and Charlotte was another.

Memphis used strong rebounding and benefited from 35 percent by second-seeded Charlotte (21-7). Memphis outboarded the 49ers 45-33, including 22 offensive rebounds that led to 28 second-chance points.

Curtis Withers led the 49ers with 32 points, while C-USA player of the year Eddie Biedenbach scored 24.

**Ala.-Birmingham 59, DePaul 56:** Demario Eddins hit a three-pointer from the left corner with 0:8 seconds left, rallying Alabama-Birmingham (21-9) into the second round.

Eddins' three-pointer from the top of the key had given the Blazers their first win of the season at 56-55 with 1:28 remaining. He finished with 11 as did Donell Taylor. Marvett McDonald and Marques Lewis had 10 each for the Blazers.

Quemont Greer led No. 5 seed DePaul (19-10) with 17 points and nine rebounds.

# Illinois returns to what it does best: win games

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Illinois bounced back from its only loss of the season with a 68-51 rout of Northwester in Friday's quarterfinals of the Big Ten tournament.

James Augustine led three players in double figures with 15 points, and Deron Williams had eight assists and eight points, including a spectacular layup midway through the second half.

Luther Head had 14 points and Roger Powell Jr. added 11. Big Ten player of the year Dee Brown had five points and six assists.

It was the 12th straight victory and 25th in 31 games here for the Illini (30-1), who play either Minnesota or Indiana in Saturday's semifinal.

Mohamed Hachad led the Wildcats (15-16) with 23 points, but it wasn't nearly enough. The loss ended Northwestern's chances of an ITT bid.

Before last Sunday's loss to Ohio State, the Illini were trying to become the first team to go through a season undefeated

since Indiana in 1975-76. Illinois' 29-0 mark was the best since 1991, when UNLV reached 34-0 before losing to Duke in the NCAA semifinals.

Illinois was on the verge of completing the first perfect Big Ten season since 1996-97, when the leading Ohio State all day Sunday. But with 6 seconds left, Matt Sylvestre made a three-pointer, stunning the Illini and handing them their first loss.

While the defeat stung, it didn't cost Illinois its No. 1 ranking or top seeding in the Big Ten tournament and probably had no effect on the Illini's likely No. 1 seeding in the NCAA tournament.

The Illini knew there were doubters and they were itching to answer them with a good show in Chicago.

Head coach Bruce Weber said his 25 baskets, including an impressive display by Brown and Williams, were enough to win. It took about nine minutes to play, Williams beat Brown on a fast break, Brown fouled the ball off the backboard and Williams dropped it in.

Illinois led 38-22 at halftime and pushed the lead to as much as 25 in the second half.

Northwestern did little to help itself, shooting less than 35 percent and going 5/11 minutes without scoring midway through the second half.

**Minnesota 71, Indiana 55:** Vincent Davis scored 16 points and Minnesota (21-9) made its case for the NCAA tournament, pulling away in the second half to rout Indiana (15-13).

Bidding for its first NCAA trip in six seasons under coach Dan Monson, the Golden Gophers have won five straight and now face top-ranked Illinois in Saturday's semifinals.

The 16-point loss — matching Indiana's worst in the conference tournament — likely ends the Hoosiers' NCAA chances and could turn up the heat on coach Mike Davis. Indiana might be headed to the NIT.

Grier had 14 points in the second half. Brent Lawson added 15 points and Aaron Robinson 14 for

the Golden Gophers, who shot 45 percent.

Freshman D.J. White led Indiana with 21 points, 10 rebounds and five blocked shots. Bracey Wright, the Big Ten's leading scorer in the regular season at 18.5 points, scored 14 on 4-for-13 shooting.

In Thursday's games:

**Ohio State 72, Penn State 69:** Tony Stockman scored 19 of his 25 points in the second half as Ohio State (20-11), coming off a victory over the top team in the country, narrowly avoided losing to one of the worst teams in the Big Ten. The Buckeyes needed a 27-7 second-half run behind the shooting of Stockman and J.J. Sullivan to rally from a 15-point deficit against the Nittany Lions (7-23).

Whatever happens in the conference tournament, the Buckeyes are going home once it is over. The basketball team is under a self-imposed ban on postseason play to mitigate possible NCAA penalties stemming from violations committed under former coach Jim O'Brien.

## SPORTS



Chargers release Flutie,  
possibly ending the quarterback's  
20-year pro career, Page 41

## Heels head off disaster

Felton keeps UNC  
from falling against  
No. 9 seed Clemson

BY KEITH PARSONS  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A victory over Clemson probably meant little to North Carolina's post-season plans. A loss? That's a different story.

Raymond Felton made sure it didn't happen. The point guard made the go-ahead three-pointer with the shot clock winding down in the final 90 seconds, and the second-ranked Tar Heels avoided the biggest upset in Atlantic Coast Conference tournament history with an 88-81 victory over the Tigers on Friday in the quarterfinals.

Since the conference expanded to nine teams in 1992 — it since has gone to 11, and Boston College joins next season — no ninth-seeded team has beaten the No. 1 seed. The Tar Heels (27-3) clearly were on the ropes, trailing by 13 points with about 9 minutes left before rallying behind Felton, their All-ACC point guard.

"His will and his play was incredible," teammate Sean May said.

Felton had 24 of his career-high 29 points in the second half and scored the final 10 points for North Carolina. Time and again down the stretch, he drove to the basket and scored or drew a foul, and his three-pointer with 5½ minutes remaining cut the margin to two.

The Tigers (16-15) increased their lead to five on a three-point play by Olin Babalola, and they led 79-77 after Vernon Hamilton's over-the-shoulder layup with 2:20 left. Rashad McCants, playing for the first time since missing four games with an intestinal disorder, made a free throw and Clemson missed a pair of shots on its next possession.

That set up Felton's fourth and final three-pointer. With the shot clock under 10, he shot over Hamilton from a few steps beyond the arc, and it swished through for the Tar Heels' first lead since late in the first half.

"The shot clock was going down, and I was looking for a ball screen," Felton said. "Hamilton was trying to cheat over it, and he left me wide open."

At that point, North Carolina coach Roy Williams chimed in: "And the coach said shoot it."

Shawan Robinson tried to answer on the other end, but his effort fell well short of the rim, and Felton and North Carolina held on.

SEE HEELS ON PAGE 45

More conference tournaments inside:

■ Washington holds off comeback by Arizona State for OT win, Page 44

■ Georgia Tech finally plays up to its potential, Page 47

■ Louisville defeats TCU for 17th victory in past 17 games, Page 47



North Carolina's Raymond Felton made the go-ahead three-pointer Friday as the Tar Heels avoided becoming the first No. 1 seed to lose to a No. 9 in the ACC tournament with an 88-81 win.



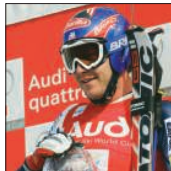
Schilling will  
appear for hearing  
in Congress;  
Canseco asks  
for immunity

Page 39



Jets sign former  
Dolphins QB  
Fiedler to back up  
Pennington

Page 41



Miller clinches  
super-G title,  
inches closer  
to winning overall  
World Cup crown

Page 43

## Oklahoma, Texas Tech advance to Big 12 semis

Page 46

